Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support a proposal to grant a CNMI-only resident status to alien parents of U.S. citizen children in the Commonwealth?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Treasure Trove

An archaeological dig for University of Guam students has uncovered a trove of Iron Age artifacts.

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Face of Evil

As Lucios Malfoy, actor Jason Isaacs has plumbed his character's dark heart and chilled millions of moviegoers.

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Bid to transfer trial from Tinian to Saipan nixed. PAGE 2
Students plead for release of scholarship checks. PAGE 3

Hart vows to restore NMC's full accreditation

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

On her first day of work yesterday, Northern Marianas College president Sharon Hart promised the college community and the Board of Regents that she would work to restore the institution's full accreditation on her first year.

Hart made the pronouncement yesterday as she was welcomed by NMC employees and students alike during an open forum at the college's campus in As Terlaje. The new president said she was thrilled upon seeing a large number

See HART on Page 4

Board of Regents chair Juan Lizama and the new president of Northern Marianas College, Dr. Sharon Hart, address reporters in a news briefing yesterday on campus. MONETH G. DEPOSA

Last chance for Neo Gold Wings

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands granted yesterday a three-month extension or up to Sept. 30, 2011, for Neo Gold Wings Paradise to pay its public land lease arrears of $211,578.96, or there won't be any more negotiation to reinstate a land lease to build a $1.6 billion to $3 billion casino resort on Tinian.

The original deadline was June 30.

"After Sept. 30 and there's no payment, that would be it," DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Babauta also gave Neo Gold Wings 60 days after the payment of arrears to remit a one-year advanced annual rental to DPL.

The advanced payment should cover September 2011 to August 2012 at $6,000 a month, for a total of $72,000.

Neo Gold Wings plans to build a "six-star" casino hotel and resort, a theme park, and a 36-hole golf course on Tinian.

The first of the two-phase project includes the construction of a 36-hole golf course and close to 800 cottages. The second phase includes

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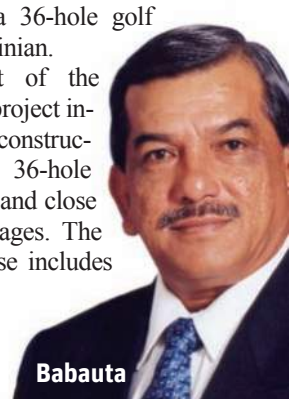
Babauta

Scientists say all polar bears are from single female brown bear

A female polar bear cub stands with her mother at the Detroit Zoological Institute in Royal Oak, Michigan. MCT

By AMINA KHAN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—All polar bears alive today are descended from a single female brown bear who most likely hailed not from Alaska—as widely presumed—but from Ireland, scientists said.

The discovery, reported online Thursday in the journal Current Biology, suggests that polar bears and various species of brown bears probably encountered each other many times over the last 100,000 years or so as climate change forced them into each others' territory.

See SCIENTISTS on Page 4

Local

Bid to transfer trial from Tinian to Saipan nixed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Superior Court rejected yesterday the government's bid to transfer from Tinian to Saipan the trial of two men facing "ice" trafficking charges, finding no evidence in the prosecutor's contention that it would be impossible to obtain a conviction due to the suspects' links to a powerful clan on Tinian.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman acknowledged that Kurt King's ties to the community might seem to make it impossible for the government to have a fair trial on Tinian but he is reluctant to transfer the trial to Saipan without any supporting facts or declarations to support this argument.

"In addition, the fact that [King] is widely known and extremely involved in the political infrastructure in Tinian and is a relative of a highly respected family on the island is not enough to establish good cause when moving to transfer venue," Wiseman stated in his order.

The judge cited the CNMI Supreme Court's ruling in Guerrero vs Tinian Dynasty case in which the high court held that "the fact that some of our islands have small populations which may implicate certain community knowledge and family ties cannot lead to a presumption against fairness and what would surely be a resulting loss of participation in the judicial process."

The Office of the Attorney General has charged King and Byron Dela Cruz with possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance. In addition, King is charged with conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance.

The charges stemmed from their arrest in April 2010 when members of the CNMI's joint Drug Enforcement Task Force raided the houses of the defendants on Tinian after a "cooperating source" allegedly managed to purchase $100 worth of "ice" from King and Dela Cruz.

In seeking to change the trial's venue, assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing had argued that nearly all the parties, all evidence, and all witnesses are located on Saipan.

Lorfing added that King was just tried and acquitted in a criminal case less than six months prior to this illegal drug case.

He noted that King is widely known and extremely involved in the political infrastructure on Tinian and is a relative of a highly respected and powerfully family on the island.

Lorfing said King's ties to the community make it impossible for the government to have a fair trial.

Dela Cruz, through counsel Steven Pixley, opposed the motion, arguing that all of the alleged criminal charges were committed on Tinian, he is a Tinian resident, the court regularly sits on Tinian, and judge Marty Taylor had already addressed this issue.

King, through counsel Vincent Seman, also opposed the transfer, saying that Tinian is the proper forum because that is where the alleged offense was committed and both defendants are presently located on Tinian.

Seman said the evidence is not too voluminous to transport from Saipan to Tinian, and that King may wish to call character witnesses, all of which are on Tinian.

Senate exempts certain veterans from paying driver's license fee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate has approved a bill exempting certain military veterans from paying a driver's license fee, if they meet certain requirements.

Senate Bill 17-77, introduced by Sens. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), now goes to the House of Representatives.

The bill exempts military veterans from paying the fee for the initial issuance, renewal, duplicate or amended Class A driver license in the CNMI, provided that they have served active duty during one of the periods of war conflicts and have been honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces.

A Class A driver license allows an individual to operate jeeps, sedans, and pickup trucks.

They must also be a CNMI resident upon entering active duty status and is a CNMI resident at the time of application or who has been a resident of the CNMI for at least two years immediately preceding the date of application for the license; not a sex offender who is required to be registered; and is qualified to obtain a driver's license in the CNMI.

Other eligible veterans include those who served on active duty or active duty in a reserve component, including the National Guard, during wartime or any conflict when personnel were committed by the U.S. president.

Also eligible from the exemption are the spouse of a veteran who would be qualified to receive a veteran's license but who is disabled to the extent that he or she cannot operate a motor vehicle.

A member or former member of the National Guard or reserve forces who has 20 or more years of creditable service is also eligible for exemption.

First-time issuances and renewals of free CNMI driver's license for veterans will be issued for a term of three years.

Man allegedly punches stepmom, beats up two nieces, one nephew

A drunk man allegedly punched his stepmother and beat up his two nieces and a nephew at a residence in Chinatown Wednesday night, police said.

William C. Teregeyo, 22, was arrested for assault and battery, criminal mischief, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at $150 cash bail and $1,350 unsecured bond. He was ordered to stay away from the four alleged victims.

Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that a police officer had responded to the house of Teregeyo's stepmother in Chinatown on Wednesday after police received a call about a domestic violence at 9:34pm.

Pangelinan said the officer arrived as an out-of-control Teregeyo was being calmed down by another man. The officer secured Teregeyo inside a patrol vehicle.

When the officer entered the house, he saw one of Teregeyo's nieces holding the suspect's elderly stepmother, who had fainted. Medics later brought the stepmother to the hospital.

Police learned that Teregeyo had been drinking with another person when he got mad after one of his nieces refused to do something for him. He allegedly smacked her in the face. When the other niece tried to call the police, Teregeyo punched her twice in the head.

When the stepmother confronted Teregeyo, he allegedly kicked her and punched her twice in the head, causing her to faint.

Teregeyo then allegedly punched his nephew in the face and kicked a laptop. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Late-enrolling students plead for release of scholarship checks

» 92 checks still pending for spring semester scholars

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Scholars of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance are becoming desperate, resorting to pleas for the release of their delayed checks so they could enroll for the new semester.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider said yesterday that his office is being bombarded with calls and messages from students or their parents, begging for help and consideration.

Saipan Tribune learned that 92 scholars have yet to get their checks for the spring 2011 semester.

"The students are pleading and begging for their checks because they want to use it for enrollment in fall 2011 and I truly understand their situation. But I have no choice but to explain to the scholars the government's situation," said Hofschneider.

He said he had already emailed Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson on Wednesday to convey these students' pleas. He has yet to receive a response on the matter as of press time yesterday.

SHEFA records indicate that the 92 checks amount to $137,200.

The Finance Department last disbursed SHEFA scholarship checks on June 20 amounting to $587,700, covering 596 checks: 320 for grant-in-aid recipients; 135 for field of study awards; and 141 for incentive scholars.

Hofschneider appealed again to parents and students for their continued patience and understanding with the government's situation as poker collection and related revenues continue to decline. The Finance Department, he said, is doing its best to fulfill these obligations.

The Legislature provides SHEFA $3 million every year for its scholarship programs. In the fall 2010 semester, SHEFA gave out $2.3 million, leaving just $906,900 for spring 2011 semester scholars.

Hofscheider is hopeful that the last batch of pending checks for spring scholars would be out soon.

SHEFA officials earlier disclosed that two scholarship programs—field of study and the incentive programs—may be suspended next semester due to the lack of funds. The board's decision is expected at its next meeting.

Head Start Center renamed to honor former director

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

To honor Joaquina M. Rabauliman's 37 years of service to the Head Start Program, the Board of Education has renamed the Garapan/Chinatown Head Start Center to the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center.

The BOE also adopted a resolution honoring the former Head Start director's commitment to educating formative minds in its meeting on June 30 at its office on Capital Hill.

Rabauliman will be presented the resolution in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the renamed Head Start Center.

Also known as Kinai, Rabauliman was born on March 15, 1933, and attended both Chalan Kanoa Elementary School and Hopwood Junior High School. She expanded her education and training throughout the Micronesian region, a move that was unheard of in the post-war era.

Upon her graduation from the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School in Chuuk, she returned to Saipan and began her long and distinguished career in education.

Rabauliman was a primary grade teacher for the Mariana Islands Department of Education from 1951-1956 before dedicating her remaining 22 years of service to focus on what would eventually become the CNMI Head Start Program.

From 1966 to 1968, she was the Mariana Islands Community Action Agency Head Start Center supervisor. As a result of her exemplary service she was then promoted to CAA Head Start Child Development assistant director from 1969 to 1970. Through hard work, determination, and perseverance, she was once again promoted to the CAA Head Start, which she served with distinction and honor from 1970 to 1984.

It was in 1984 when CAA Head Start was transitioned to the Mariana Islands Head Start Program and Rabauliman was named the first Mariana Islands Head Start program director until her retirement in 1988.

According to the Education Board, Rabauliman is a passionate advocate of both education and community as is evidenced "by her admirable and tireless work as she volunteered her services to the parent teacher associations" in San Roque, Tanapag, and Oleai elementary schools.

She also served countless community service committees and organizations.

The board said that even after her service to the PSS, Rabauliman continued to serve her community by using her passion for reason, fairness, and wisdom in providing counsel to family and community members seeking advice.

"Kinai is a resolute example of a product of the public education system who came back to serve PSS diligently and generously," added the board.

WAGE SURVEY HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Andrew P. Andrus, executive director for the Guam Employers Council, makes a presentation on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's prevailing wage survey before employer representatives at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe Wednesday afternoon. The Chamber's survey is separate from the one that the CNMI government will also be conducting.

Inos says CNMI stays within $122M budget

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos said the CNMI is so far staying within its revised budget of $122 million for fiscal year 2011, which entered its last quarter on July 1.

This means the Fitial administration expects the July to September quarter to have some $30 million in collections.

But Inos, who oversees government finances, said if actual collections fall short, then payroll may be further affected.

Right now, payroll for non-critical government employees is almost always delayed. More recently, even critical government employees including police officers, doctors, nurses, firefighters, and corrections officers almost didn't get paid on time because of revenue shortage.

Inos said the government has been trying to limit its spending.

When asked whether additional austerity measures will have to be implemented, Inos said they don't see further cuts in work hours, which are already at 64 biweekly instead of the regular 80 hours.

The original budget for fiscal year 2011 was $132 million. The administration had to bring it down to $122 million as actual revenues proved much lesser than projected.

Inos also said the 2012 budget, or the resources available for government appropriations, remains at $102 million. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Slots still open for free Army Reserve day camp

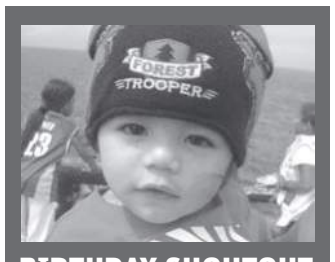
It's that time of year again to register for the Army Reserve Enrichment Camp!

The Army Reserve Enrichment Camp is a one week day camp for Army Reserve youth ages 4-12. The camp is available to dependents and extended family of Army Reserve soldiers. Registration is open now and there are still 25 spots available.

The camp will be held at Camp Marianas on Saipan on July 25-29, 2011. To apply go to www.arfp.org/arec.

This is an excellent opportunity for children to have fun, make new friends while learning important life skills. The camp includes: swimming lessons, go karts, kayaking, snorkeling, volleyball, mountain biking, movie making, horseback riding, ocean safety, golf, field trips, arts and crafts, and more!

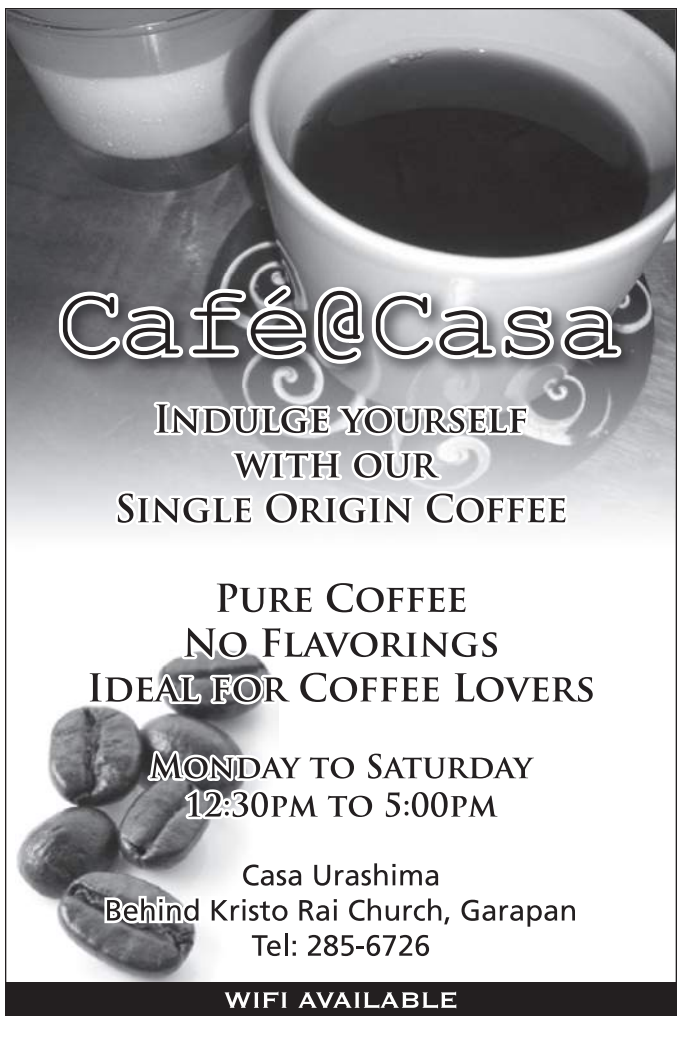
For more information about the services CYSS can offer to Army Reserve soldiers, families and children, contact Tara Dixon at (808) 438-1600 x3374, or at tara.l.dixon.ctr@us.army.mil. ***(PR)***



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy first birthday to Sage Jerome Lizama Santos! May you have many more birthdays to come! We love you, Baby SJ! Greetings come from Mom, Dad, your sister, and brothers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



This artist's rendition shows Neo Gold Wings' proposed "six-star" casino hotel and resort, which will also feature a theme park, and a 36-hole golf course on Tinian. The first of the two-phase project includes the construction of a 36-hole golf course and close to 800 cottages. The second phase includes a hotel and casino and a theme park.

LAST

From Page 1

a hotel and casino and a theme park.

Yeon G. Kim, senior director for The Vitala Group, which is one of Neo Gold Wings' investor partners, wrote to DPL asking for an extension on the original deadline for Neo Gold Wings to complete its payments.

Babauta, in a response yesterday, agreed to consider granting Neo Gold Wings until Sept. 30 to pay the $211,578.96, and at least until Nov. 30 to remit the one-year advanced payment.

He reiterated that DPL is thankful for Neo Gold Wings' interest in pursuing its lease to develop a property in Pina, Tinian.

"The DPL is prepared to work with NGP and all its ventures once all arrears and all other specified payments have been received by our office," Babauta told Kim.

The DPL secretary also said the lease agreement with Neo Gold Wings will remain in effect subject to DPL collecting the entire amount specified.

"Upon completion of these payment terms, the DPL will prepare amendments to the lease agreement which will assist NGP in timely progressing with its developments," Babauta added.

DPL had terminated Neo Gold Wings' land lease last year over nonpayment of leases, but the casino investor's renewed interest in pursuing the project—including partnering with investors from the U.S., Japan, and Korea—prompted DPL to reconsider its decision, with certain restrictions

Neo Gold Wings chair and chief executive officer Joseph Hyun and vice chair Kwi Dong Woo, along with their partner investors, met with CNMI government officials in May on Saipan and Tinian.

Another of DPL's requirements, a $3 million security deposit, is still being worked on.

On Tinian, only Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino has been operating since 1998. Besides Neo Gold Wings, two other casino investors—Bridge Investment Group and MRDC—are also pursuing casino projects on Tinian.

Rota's first and so far only casino has temporarily closed, while another investor has yet to be granted a temporary license to operate.

On Saipan, voters twice rejected legalizing casino on the island but this has not deterred lawmakers. A pending local bill legalizing casino operation on Saipan is currently under committee review.

SCIENTISTS

From Page 1

On some occasions, those meetings produced hybrid offspring whose genetic signature lives on in polar bears today.

The findings were made by analyzing the mitochondrial DNA extracted from 242 bear lineages. Some of them were polar bears and some were brown bears. Some lived recently and others have been dead since the late Pleistocene, which ended nearly 12,000 years ago.

Polar bears and brown bears are uniquely suited to their habitats. Polar bears have white coats to help them blend in and sneak up on prey, a carnivore's fearsome set of teeth, and are superb swimmers. The smaller brown bear lives on land in warmer climes and eats plants and small animals of all sorts.

Based on fossil evidence and genetic analysis, scientists had thought that polar bears' closest relatives were the brown bears living on islands off the coast of Alaska.

Although members of the two species can, and have, met and mated—as evidenced by the occasional "grolar bear" hybrid popping up in the Canadian Arctic—those couplings are extremely rare and thought to be brought on by global warming, as melting glaciers force polar bears into the brown bears' habitat and brown bears to encroach northward into polar bears' Arctic refuge.

So imagine study leader Ceiridwen Edwards' surprise when she analyzed mitochondrial DNA in the bones of extinct brown bears collected from Irish caves and discovered that it most closely resembled the DNA of modern polar bears.

Unlike nuclear DNA, mitochondrial DNA is passed down essentially unchanged from mother to child and provides a clear record of maternal lineage. Using mitochondrial DNA, scientists had already determined that all living polar bears could trace their roots to a single "Eve."

But to think that she was an Irish brown bear?

"I thought maybe I'd made a mistake," said Edwards, an archaeological geneticist at University of Oxford.

To rule out the possibility that the bones recovered from the Irish caves belonged to polar bears, not brown bears, she and her colleagues analyzed isotopes of carbon and nitrogen in the bones and found that the remains belonged to an animal with a land-based diet, not one feeding on marine life.

Then the researchers teamed with Beth Shapiro, an associate professor of biology at Pennsylvania State University, who compared the Irish mitochondrial DNA to genetic samples of bears that lived in Asia, Europe, North Africa and North America over the last 120,000 years.

Shapiro's bear family tree showed a number of strange patterns. For instance, Irish brown bears that lived right around the peak of the glacial period, between 38,000 and 10,000 years ago, shared their mitochondrial DNA with polar bears—more so than the brown bears living on islands off the coast of Alaska.

The researchers think that during colder times, the glacial ice sheet would have extended all the way south into Ireland, allowing polar bears to roam into brown bear territory and making cross-species hybridization possible. One of the resulting female cubs probably went on to become a polar bear matriarch, and the descendents of all other matriarch lines died off.

The study showed that, rather than being an aberration, these hybridizing events may have happened multiple times over the course of polar bears' history and might be a more common part of the evolutionary process than previously thought. The researchers even point out that it may be time to provide protections to such hybrids, the same as those given to "purebred" species.

"I think it's really cool," said Graham Slater, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California, Los Angeles, who was not involved in the study. "These ancient DNA studies are really exciting because they give you a window in to the dynamics of how these animals moved around, and who they were interbreeding with, that you just don't get with only the living individuals."

HART

From Page 1

of people in the open session showing their enthusiasm and support for the new leadership.

Hart, in a press briefing yesterday, said she also had an informal meeting with the board to mainly discuss accreditation issues.

The Accrediting Commission for Junior Community Colleges lifted NMC's show-cause status on Friday, placing it under the less severe "probation status." NMC has until Oct. 15 to submit a report.

Hart said the key focus of her next three months is to prepare this probation report and for the ACJCC team visit that is slated sometime in October or November this year.

Because of her strong accreditation background, the new president is confident that she can achieve her goal of getting the college out of probation. She claimed credit for restoring the full status of her former college and helping prepare the self-study of other colleges.

Among NMC's deficiencies is its program review, which Hart said she will work on to make the college compliant. She said she spent five years in charge of program review at one of her former colleges and was asked to do the same for eighth other institutions simultaneously.

Hart said she will make sure that NMC's programs are aligned with what the local community needs. "I believe that the real goal of a public community college is to be serving the need of the local community. And I believe in looking at statistics, working on facts, talking with the community, and making sure that each of our graduates will come out equipped," she told reporters, adding that she will also ensure that standards are built across its curriculum and programs.

By restoring and maintaining full accreditation, NMC can save energy and resources that it can utilize in other areas, Hart added.

'I love challenges'

Hart, who has been a president of a number of colleges and universities in the U.S. mainland, said that facing challenges is her prime motivation for accepting the NMC job.

"I love the challenge and this institution does have challenges…but these challenges I feel can absolutely be addressed appropriately and I know I can help the institution move forward," she said.

Additionally, Hart said she loves the island environment.

Hart had applied for the same position four years ago but was accepted to another post. At that time, Dr. Carmen Fernandez was chosen to become NMC president.

"So when the opportunity opened, I said…maybe this is the time," she said.

Hart obtained her bachelor's degree in vocational home economics and agriculture/natural resources education in 1978 at the Michigan State University. She earned a master's degree in family and consumer economics in 1983 from the Indiana State University.

In 1993, she completed leadership studies through the Institute for the Management of Lifelong Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She obtained her doctoral degree in education at the University of Illinois in 1995.

Marine monument group joins conservation conference

Representing Friends of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, Ignacio V. "Ike" Cabrera, chairman, and Laurie Peterka, secretary, will be among 1,200 professionals and citizen conservationists who will hear from Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, retired U.S. Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, who headed the federal response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and historian/ author Douglas Brinkley at the National Wildlife Refuge System *Conserving the Future* conference in Madison, WI.

The conference will be held July 11-14, when a new vision will be ratified to guide the Refuge System for the next decade.

Speakers will also include oceanographer Dr. Sylvia Earle; award-winning nature photographer Dewitt Jones who traveled the globe for *National Geographic*; MacArthur-winning environmental activist Majora Carter of the Bronx, New York; and Juan Martinez with the nonprofit Children & Nature Network and named by *National Geographic* as one of its Emerging Explorers.

FOMTM is among more than 100 nonprofit Refuge System Friends organizations at the conference. FOMTM was formed in 2008 to express the voice of the local community and consists of a cross-section of indigenous and resident people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands who are dedicated to the conservation, preservation and protection of flora, fauna, and geological features of the oceans; and the proper management of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. The organization was a recipient of a 2009 EPA Environmental Award for their community outreach work supporting marine protected areas.

The Refuge System, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is the nation's largest network of federal lands and waters dedicated to the protection of wildlife and the habitat on which it depends. The Refuge System is composed of 553 national wildlife refuges spanning about 150 million acres. More than 44 million people visit wildlife refuges each year.

The new vision will help the Refuge System implement the best wildlife conservation practices guided by the latest science. The Refuge System's new vision recognizes the rapid social and environmental changes that have taken place over the last decade or so.

FOMTM is attending the NWR conference to network with like-minded professionals and volunteers in order to bring whatever resources it can back to the local community. Any particular programs that may be launched as a consequence of participation will be announced at http://Marianamonument.blogspot.com/, where you can also follow all other activities that FOMTM is involved on behalf of the community. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Dog licensing resumes next week

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan will reopen its dog control program, "Dog Tag License Registration," starting next week, from July 11 to 22.

Registration will take place at the Mayor of Saipan compound in Chalan Kanoa (behind the post office) from 9am to 4pm (open during lunch hours).

Pet owners are advised to first pay the fees at either the CNMI Treasury on Capital Hill, Superior Court in Susupe, or Tax and Revenue in Dandan then proceed to the registration site. Applications are available at the cashiers. Fill out the application per dog to expedite the process. ***(PR)***

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area-517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- July 11-14, from 1pm to 3am
- July 15, from 8am to 10pm

The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) on July 12-13, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(USN)***

Learn traditional Carolinian song and dance

The Inetnon Amot yan Kutturan Natibu/Mwiischil Safey me Kkoor Aramasal Faluw is offering free classes on traditional Carolinian song and dance to all interested Chamorros and Carolinians on Saturday, July 9, 2011.

Classes start at 9:30am and end around noontime. Classes are offered at the Saipan Chamorro-Carolinian Village Cultural Centers Headquarters at 1213 Capitol Hill Rd., which is across from the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency and next to the CNMI Board of Parole Office. The classes are offered by the Association of Native Medicine and Culture, in partnership with the Indigenous Affairs Office. For more information, call 322-0278. ***(PR)***

Veterans employment coordinator to conduct workshops

Guam Department of Labor Disable Veterans Outreach Program coordinator Jackie Nguyen will be conducting employment information workshops from July 14 to 20 in the CNMI.

The DVOP is responsible for Guam, the CNMI, and American Samoa. She will also be available to meet with veterans and family members individually to answer questions.

Nguyen's schedule is as follows:

- July 14-16 on Saipan from 9am to 4pm at the WIA office in Capital Hill
- July 14, on Saipan from 7am to 9am, VFW at the VFW headquarters
- July 17-18 on Tinian from 9am to 4pm at the Tinian Municipal Council's Office
- July 19-20 on Rota, J9-4 at the WIA Office.

For further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military/ Veterans affairs at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Veterans outreach on July 25-29

Tina San Agustin, Federal Department of Veterans Affairs Legal Administrative Specialist from Guam and the Northern Marian Islands, will be on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota from July 25 to 29 for Veterans Outreach on Veterans Federal Benefits.

She will be also be entertaining veterans questions and assist with claims. Agustin's schedule is as follows:

- July 25, 8:30am-4:30pm on Rota at the WIA office
- July 26-27, 8:30-4:30 on Tinian at the Tinian Municipal Council's office
- July 28-29, 8:30-4:30 on Saipan at the Military/ Veterans Affairs office on Capitol Hill, building 1364.

If you wish to make an appointment or for further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military/ Veterans affairs at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Tinian scholarship board meeting

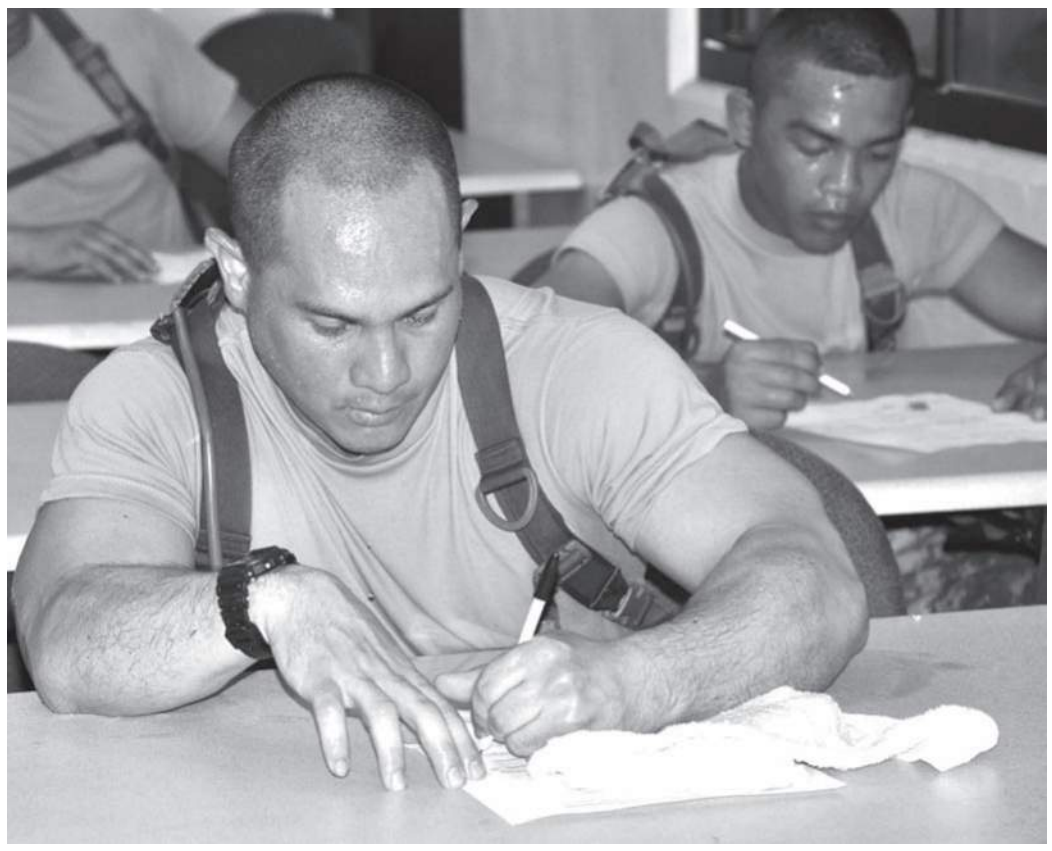
The Tinian Municipal Scholarship board will be having a meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2011, at 3pm, at the Tinian mayor's conference room to discuss the application deadline for school year 2011-2012. ***(PR)***

Hopwood grade 6 and 7 open registration set

The open registration for seventh and eighth grade levels of Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Jr. High School is set from July 11 to July 29. Parents and guardians of enrolling students should provide the school with all the necessary documents to avoid any problem in the processing of their child's enrollment. Any new or transfer students must also provide proper documents to prevent any delay in their processing. For more information, contact the school at 237-3422/3395/3421. ***(PR)***

Enrollment info for Kagman High

To all returning Kagman High School students, parents and guardians: All students must register anew for school year 2011-2012, even if you went to KHS this last school year. The school is updating its records and everyone must re-register or they will not receive a class schedule for the school year. Register before Aug. 19 for optimum scheduling. Registration forms can be picked up from the registrar or in the main office. For more information, call 237 3840 or 237 3886. ***(PR)***



BEST SQUAD COMPETITION GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment complete the Exam event on Andersen Air Force Base as part of the Best Squad Competition June 14, 2011. The competition is part of an annual training exercise on Andersen Air Force Base.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment compete in the One Mile Litter Carry event on Andersen Air Force Base as part of the Best Squad Competition June 14, 2011. The competition consists of five timed events: two minutes each of push-ups and sit-ups, a one-mile litter carry with a 180-lb simulated casualty, a stress shoot, 10-question exam, and land navigation.

GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Soldiers from Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment compete in the Stress Shoot event on Andersen Air Force Base as part of the Best Squad Competition June 15, 2011. The purpose of the stress shoot event is to test the soldier's ability to accurately engage targets under extreme physical and mental exhaustion.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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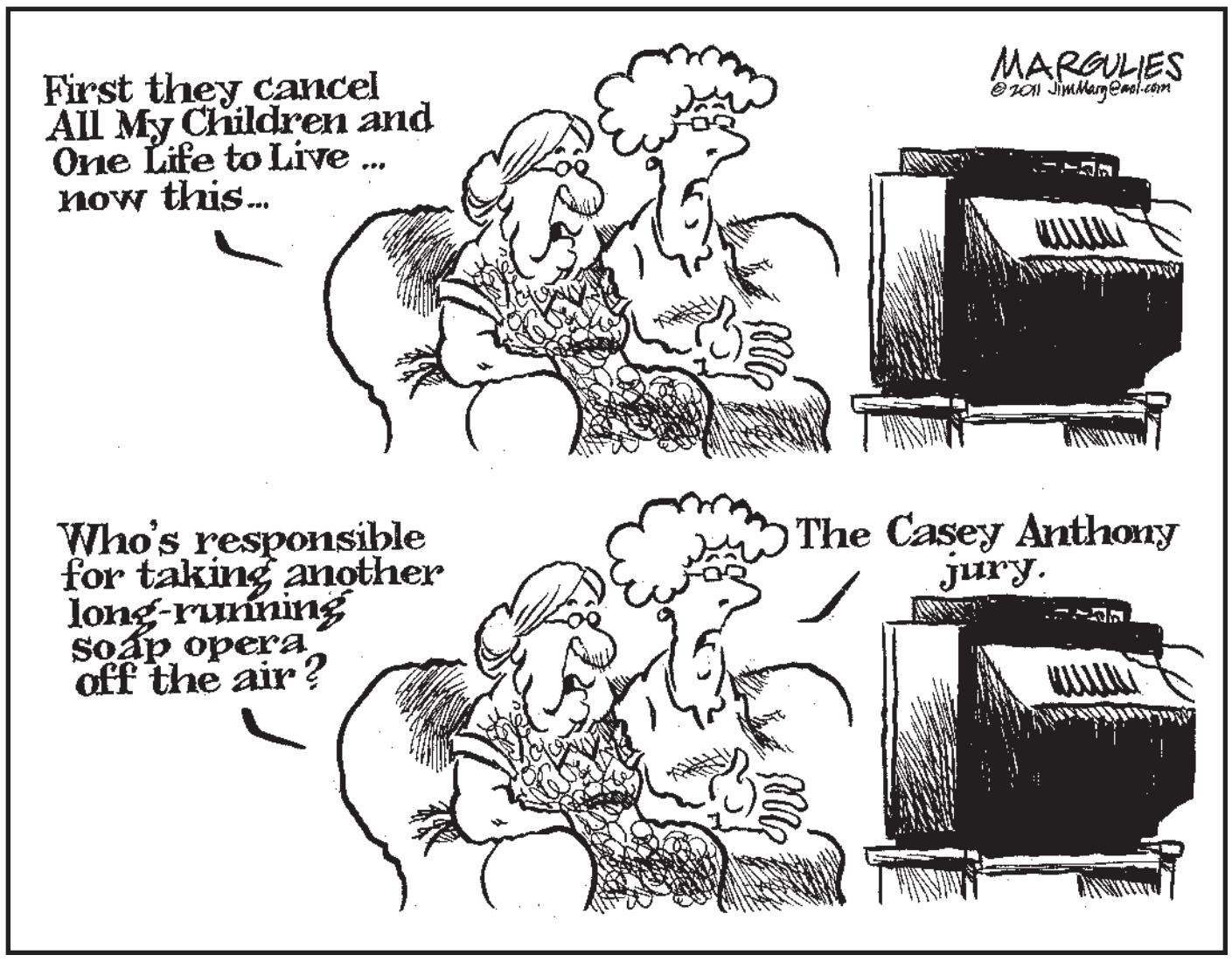
First they cancel All My Children and One Life to Live ... now this...
MARGULIES
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Who's responsible for taking another long-running soap opera off the air?
The Casey Anthony jury.

EDITORIAL

A juvenile justice system that's adrift

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times

These are interesting times for those who work in the field of juvenile justice. In many states, lawmakers and voters are turning away from the 1990s model of treating youth offenders like adults and locking them up in adult prisons. Influential conservatives have banded together to support constructive and cost-effective alternatives to lengthy sentences. Across the nation, juvenile crime rates are falling, giving states some time and breathing room to restructure delinquency programs. Momentum is building for meaningful and cost-saving reform. All that's lacking is national focus and strong leadership.

California's example shows what happens when that leadership goes missing. Draconian laws put into place in the last 20 years still result in too many youth offenders here being sentenced and imprisoned as adults. Our prisons are bursting, the failing Juvenile Justice Division of the state corrections department has turned over much of its mission to counties, and Los Angeles County's troubled Probation Department is operating under a federal consent decree while critics are calling for even broader scrutiny. What this state and many others need at just this time is effective and creative support from the federal office that for many years sorted through policies, promoted best practices and offered research and technical assistance. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention could help states and counties sort through what works and what doesn't—and then advocate for legislation and funding to continue reducing juvenile delinquency.

Instead, the office has been left leaderless.

Halfway through his term, President Obama has yet to nominate an administrator for the federal office that once reliably developed national policies and priorities. It is one of only two Department of Justice nominations the president has yet to make. As a result, the office has drifted from its mission while letting states fend for themselves, spending too much money on incarceration of juveniles and on ineffective programs.

The federal government should not be expected to take over the states' primary role in juvenile justice. But beginning in 1974, when Congress adopted the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Washington has played a crucial role in helping states push their response to youth crime out of the dark ages. Now the act has lapsed, and without a leader at the office, bills to reauthorize it have gone nowhere. Federal funding for juvenile justice programs has dropped precipitously, and states have suffered as a consequence.

It's well past time for Obama to name a leader for the office. He should act now, before more precious time is lost and more young offenders become set in their ways and add new burdens and costs to state justice systems.

Troop cuts herald shift in US approach

By ROBERT BURNS
AP NATIONAL SECURITY WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama's withdrawal plan for Afghanistan marks the beginning of the end of a troop-intensive approach to countering a Taliban insurgency that until recent months had fought the U.S. and its NATO allies to a standstill.

As the war grinds on, the Obama administration will shift the U.S. military's focus more toward targeting terrorist leaders, while giving Afghans more of the lead in fighting—and eventually reconciling with—the Taliban.

What remains in doubt is the endgame: finding a political solution to the conflict.

Are the Taliban under enough military pressure to compel them to enter serious peace talks with Kabul? Robert Gates, the soon-to-retire defense secretary, thinks not—at least not before the end of this year. But recognizing that Afghans and Americans alike are weary of war, Gates concedes that the current troop-intensive U.S. approach is not sustainable.

AP analysis

So the U.S. troop withdrawal will accelerate next year, with all 30,000 of the "surge" troops that Obama ordered to Afghanistan expected to be gone by September 2012, leaving about 68,000 U.S. troops and a few tens of thousands from other coalition countries. As the force shrinks, so will the scope and ambition of the U.S.-led military campaign.

In his speech to America, Obama made no mention of defeating the Taliban. Instead he focused on al-Qaida, which is not primarily in Afghanistan.

"What we can do, and will do, is build a partnership with the Afghan people that endures—one that ensures that we will be able to continue targeting terrorists and supporting a sovereign Afghan government," he said, adding that the goal is not to make Afghanistan "a perfect place."

"We will not police its streets or patrol its mountains indefinitely," he said.

The shift is a setback for the war's current commander, Gen. David Petraeus, the author of the military's guidebook for counterinsurgency. A year ago, Petraeus and the likeminded commander he replaced, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, were talking about a "fully resourced, comprehensive counterinsurgency campaign" in Afghanistan as the key to turning around a stalemated war.

Petraeus is now slated to retire from the Army and become CIA director, and the next Afghanistan commander, Gen. John Allen, will be trimming the U.S. sails.

In his speech, Obama said the U.S. intends to remain committed to Afghanistan's future—not least because it is in U.S. interests to prevent the country from reverting to a haven for al-Qaida. But by the end of 2014, all U.S. and foreign combat forces would be out under a plan announced in Lisbon, Portugal, last November and publicly endorsed by Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

The speech heralds a historic turning point in the war, but not the first since Obama took office in January 2009. That spring he fired his top commander in Kabul, Army Gen. David McKiernan, in favor of McChrystal and the "fundamentally new approach" he advocated.

In an assessment for Gates, McChrystal wrote that the war could be lost unless Obama was willing to redefine the fight and send thousands more U.S. troops.

The president accepted the core of that advice, which included McChrystal's view that the central objective must be to protect the Afghan population, not just from Taliban violence and intimidation but also from "corruption and coercion."

Obama balked at McChrystal's request for some 40,000 additional forces, however, and settled on roughly 30,000.

The phased drawdown of American troops beginning this summer will not signal an immediate abandonment of the "protect-the-people-and-bolster-their-government" approach. But it does suggest that with the 2012 presidential election looming, Obama is ready to begin scaling back his war goals.

"From the standpoint of the American psyche, I think this will be welcomed," said Kiron K. Skinner, director of Carnegie Mellon University's Center for International Relations and Politics and a former adviser to the Pentagon. She said the White House also calculates that it will help Obama as he heads into a re-election fight.

One factor that Obama considered in coming to his decision on troop withdrawals is the risk that starting a U.S. departure now would trigger a rush to the exits by Britain, Germany and other NATO allies with troops in Afghanistan. The allies were long skeptical of the wisdom of a troop-heavy approach to the conflict.

Also weighing on Obama is an increasingly impatient Congress. Many lawmakers share the view of Rep. Adam Smith, the ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, who says the time has come to scale back the war effort.

"The cost of our efforts in Afghanistan—in terms of money and lives—is a significant strain on our nation and we must begin to responsibly reduce our commitments," Smith said before the president's address.

Robert Burns has covered military and national security issues for The Associated Press since 1990. He can be reached at http://twitter.com/robertburnsAP

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Warring ambitions

By JOYCE APPLEBY
Los Angeles Times

Joyce Appleby is a professor of history emerita at UCLA and the author of The Relentless Revolution: A History of Capitalism. *She wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

James Madison would have smiled had he heard about President Obama's maneuver, seemingly in defiance of the War Powers Act, to avoid asking Congress to authorize military action in Libya.

The act, passed in 1973, came at a time when the Vietnam War had been under way for years without any president asking for congressional approval. Members of Congress wanted future presidents to be obliged to come to them early on in a military action.

The Constitution, after all, had invested in Congress the sole power to declare war. And it rankled legislators that no president had sought congressional approval of a war since 1941, when Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress the day after Pearl Harbor. The War Powers Act was expected to put a stop to presidential impunity in entering armed conflicts by requiring presidents to notify Congress within 48 hours of sending troops into action, and to begin withdrawing them after 60 days unless Congress voted to authorize the action.

Since the act's passage, the country has gone to war many times under various guises, but presidents have blithely continued to act without congressional approval. The Libyan engagement has presented an ideal occasion for Congress to press the issue.

The 60-day deadline on Libya passed May 20. And then began the war of experts.

After Caroline Krass, acting head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, advised Obama that he should comply with the law, the president sought legal advice elsewhere, in an attempt to find some that was more to his liking. White House counsel Robert Bauer came through, issuing an opinion that the missiles we had been raining on Libya did not constitute "hostilities" as envisioned under the act. The president chose Bauer's opinion over Krass'.

And why would Madison have smiled? Because this type of presidential reaction was exactly what he predicted would happen as chief executives confronted the limitations contained in the separation of powers established in the Constitution.

The Founding Fathers considered a balance of powers essential to preventing tyranny. As Madison wrote in his Federalist No. 51 essay, "Ambition must be made to counteract ambition." "The interest of the man," he went on to explain, "must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place."

The drafters of the Constitution wanted an energetic federal government, so they created one, investing it with powers not established in the Articles of Confederation. Then they set about figuring out how to keep their new institution from turning into a monster.

Some like to see the Constitution as a compendium of political virtue, but it would be more accurate to celebrate it as a work of engineering. It set up powers for Congress, the presidency and the Supreme Court, and then channeled and sluiced these streams of power to keep them under control.

The Constitution's drafters expected Congress to be the superior power in the new government they were creating. It was the British Parliament, after all, that had shaken up the old imperial order with laws to rein in Colonial initiatives in the 1760s and 1770s.

The great respect George Washington had accrued during the fighting of the Revolutionary War argued for making the president commander in chief of American forces. But which branch would decide when to go to war? Because members of both the House and the Senate represented the communities from which soldiers and sailors would be drawn for future conflicts, wisdom dictated that the power to make war be put in their hands.

Keeping those two powers—declaring and waging war—separate involved an engineering feat Madison tellingly described as pitting the officeholders' ambitions against each other.

Obama not only acted according to original expectations in his reluctance to have his authority curtailed, but so did Congress. Liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans have dropped their differences for the moment and joined together to check presidential power. Instead of acting like partisans, they are trying to chart a course of action to preserve their constitutionally mandated authority.

Madison went on to say that relying on personal ambition to maintain the separation of powers might seem to reflect on human nature, but what then, he asked, is government itself if not "the greatest of all reflections on human nature."

Pundits like to point to statements Obama made about proper executive restraint when he was a law professor or a member of the Senate. They fail to realize that when he became president, the "interest of the man" would connect him to "the constitutional rights of the place."

Mrs. Obama hits her stride as first lady

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GABORONE, Botswana (AP)—After more than two years as America's first lady, Michelle Obama won't say she's hit her stride.

Her performance on a good will mission to Africa, including an emotionally rousing speech about youth leadership and a packed itinerary that rivaled her husband's traveling schedules, said otherwise.

On her second overseas business trip without the president, and to the black motherland, America's first black first lady was warmly received everywhere she went, often with song and to the point of almost being moved to tears.

She spoke passionately about her causes, tickled and danced with some of the youngest Africans, and sat with presidents and first ladies, including Nelson Mandela, South Africa's former president and a hero of the anti-apartheid movement.

AP analysis

She held 20 public events in five days, landed on newspaper front pages and was fashionably dressed, as usual, including outfits with an African connection.

In between all that, Mrs. Obama squeezed in dinner with gal-pal Oprah Winfrey, who was in South Africa for unrelated business.

It was the first lady's biggest moment on the world stage.

She was reluctant to grade herself, telling reporters that it embarrasses her to "talk about my stride and being on my game." But she does realize her power as first lady and says it's a time-stamped opportunity that she doesn't want to waste.

"I have the advantage of really being able to set my own agenda and not having to deal with the day-to-day challenges that ... just keep coming at you," she said, speaking of President Barack Obama. "That's a privilege and there is real opportunity there."

Her signature issue—both in the states and around the world—is encouraging young people to become the next generation of leaders and problem-solvers. It's a major reason why she spent a week visiting the model democracies of South Africa and Botswana, her first visits to those countries. In Africa alone, nearly two-thirds of its population is younger than 25.

Mrs. Obama also promoted education and uses the story of her upbringing by working-class parents in Chicago to inspire high school students to dream big.

She lately has taken to arranging for groups of students, particularly those who aren't from the best backgrounds but who have shown academic promise, to spend a day at a top university. She held such as session at the University of Cape Town for 50 South African high school students, following up on one last month at the University of Oxford in London.

"I want to make sure that you all see the promise in yourselves," the first lady told the youngsters. "It's so clear to me and so many others. The challenge is to make sure you see it in yourselves."

Mrs. Obama's message resonated with women in Africa.

"She gives hope not just to women of color, but to women everywhere," said Kiri Maponya, a member of one of Soweto's leading families who now lives in the U.S. The first lady spent Wednesday in Soweto, a black township in Johannesburg that was at the center of the uprisings against apartheid, the now-abolished system of racial separation.

Before the youth leadership speech, Mandela's wife, Graca Machel, gave Mrs. Obama a rousing introduction that nearly moved the first lady to tears.

"We welcome you as a daughter of African heritage and we can call you the queen of our world," Machel said.

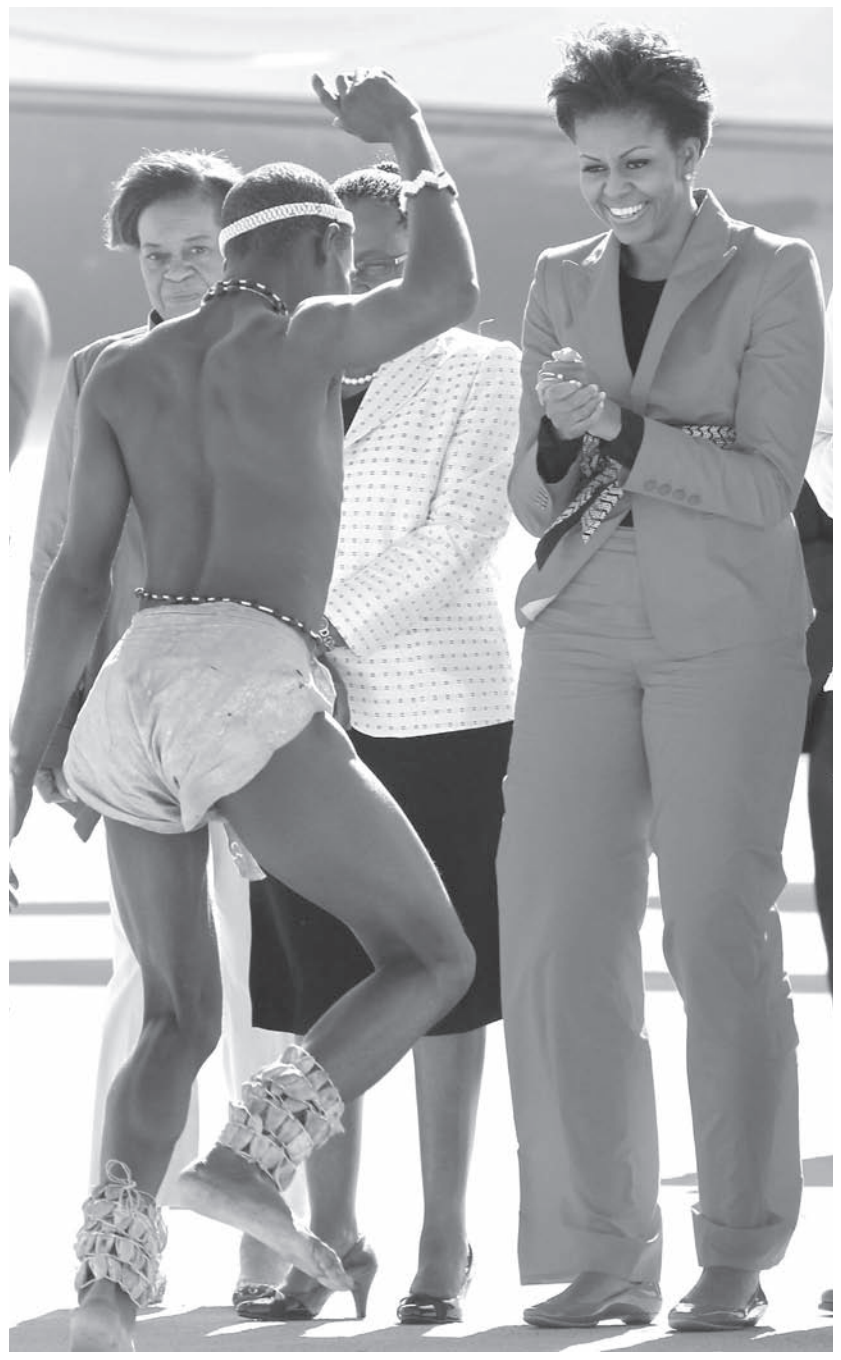
Mrs. Obama said she doesn't understand why some things, such as that speech, go really well, and why other things just go OK.

"I just want to be useful," she said.

There's no question that she is useful and will continue to be because, as she often says, there is much more work to do.

For one thing, the presidential campaign season is revving up in the U.S. and her husband wants another four years in office. While also shies away from the idea that she's the president's "secret weapon," as she came to be known during the 2008 campaign, Mrs. Obama is helping him raise money this coming week at three fundraisers in Boston and Burlington, Vt.

Darlene Superville covers Michelle Obama for The Associated Press in Washington.



AP

First lady Michelle Obama watches as traditional dancers perform upon her arrival in Gaborone, Botswana, Friday, June 24, 2011. At left is her mother Marian Robinson.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲84° ▼77°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼77°	▲83° ▼77°	▲83° ▼77°

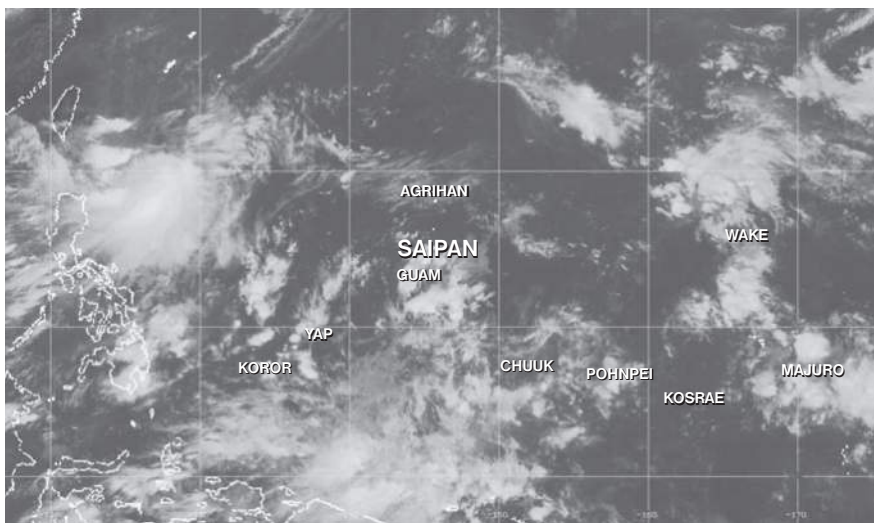
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲81	▼76
Palau	Rain	▲84	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲84	▼76
Chuuk	Rain	▲83	▼76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲86	▼72
Kosrae	Rain	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Rain	▲83	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼55
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲92	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲56	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼80
New York	Thundershowers	▲87	▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲89	▼77
Paris	Showers	▲77	▼55
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲78	▼72
Rome	Sunny	▲89	▼69
Salem	Sunny	▲81	▼54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼53
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲81	▼71
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲85	▼77
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough curves northeastward from a weak circulation just south of Koror near 4N136E to end west of the Marianas at 18N142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Koror near the circulation, or south of a line from 6N130E to 6N137E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring north of Koror within 70 miles of a line from 10N134E to 16N134E, and near Yap within 60 miles of a line from 8N137E to 14N139E. Convergent southerly flow east of the circulation is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Yap, or south of a line from 1N138E to 6N145E to 6N149E to 1N151E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Guam and Rota, within 170 miles of a line from 14N146E to 10N145E to 6N147E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 8N168E to 6N180E. A surface trough curves northeastward from 2N154E to 12N165E. Scattered showers are located southeast of Chuuk within 90 miles of a line from 4N151E to 8N158E and northwest of Kwajalein.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:15 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
9:31 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
3:52 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
8:54 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Monday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Tuesday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Wednesday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:05 PM	12:06 AM
Sunday	2:05 PM	12:54 AM
Monday	3:05 PM	1:45 AM
Tuesday	4:05 PM	2:40 AM
Wednesday	5:03 PM	3:37 AM

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  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road,
Call 285-6081 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa
(east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1
for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville
Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am
Morning worship 10:00am
Evening service 6:00pm
Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services
Sunday morning 10:00am
Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.
Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service
Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship
Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup
Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service
Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting
Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice
Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting
Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Business

Amid scandal, Murdoch kills off News of the World

LONDON (AP)—The Murdoch media empire unexpectedly jettisoned the *News of the World* Thursday after a public backlash over the illegal guerrilla tactics it used to expose the rich, the famous and the royal and remain Britain's best-selling Sunday newspaper.

The abrupt decision stunned the paper's staff of 200, shocked the world's most competitive news town and ignited speculation that Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. plans to rebrand the tabloid under a new name in a bid to prevent a phone-hacking scandal from wrecking its bid for a far more lucrative television deal.

"This Sunday will be the last issue of the *News of the World*," James Murdoch, son of the media magnate, announced in a memo to staff.

Mushrooming allegations of immoral and criminal behavior at the paper—including bribing police officers for information, hacking into the voice mail of murdered schoolgirls' families and targeting the phones of the relatives of soldiers killed in Afghanistan and the victims of the London transit attacks—cast a dark cloud over News Corp.'s multibillion-dollar plan to take full ownership of British Sky Broadcasting, an operation far more valuable than all of Murdoch's British newspapers.

Faced with growing public outrage, political condemnation and fleeing advertisers, Murdoch stopped the presses on the 168-year-old newspaper, whose lurid scoops have ranged from Sarah Ferguson's claims she could provide access to ex-husband Prince Andrew to motor racing chief Max Mosley's penchant for sadomasochism.

James Murdoch said all revenue from the final issue, which will carry no ads, would go to "good causes." The paper has been hemorrhaging advertisers since the phone hacking scandal escalated this week, with companies including automakers Ford and Vauxhall, grocery chain J. Sainsbury and pharmacy chain Boots pulling ads from the paper.

Police say they are examining 4,000 names of people who may have been targeted by the tabloid, which sells about 2.7 million copies a week.

The paper has acknowledged hacking into the messages of politicians, celebrities and royal aides, but maintained for years the transgressions were confined to a few rogue staff. A reporter and a private investigator working for the paper were jailed for hacking in 2007.

Security holes discovered in iPhones, iPads

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A new security hole has opened up in Apple Inc.'s iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch devices, raising alarms about the susceptibility of some of the world's hottest tech gadgets to hacker attacks.

Flaws in the software running those devices came to light after a German security agency warned that criminals could use them to steal confidential data off the devices. Apple, the world's largest technology company by market value, said Thursday that it is working on a fix that will be distributed in an upcoming software upgrade.

With the security hole, an attacker can get malicious software onto a device by tricking its owner into clicking an infected PDF file. Germany's Federal Office for Information Security called the flaws "critical weaknesses" in Apple's iOS operating system.

Internet-connected mobile devices are still subject to fewer attacks than personal computer, but they could eventually prove a juicy target for hackers because they are warehouses of confidential banking, e-mail, calendar, contact and other data.

Software vulnerabilities are discovered all the time. What makes the latest discovery alarming is that the weaknesses are already being actively exploited—albeit in a consensual way.

The latest concerns were prompted by the emergence of a new version of a program to allow Apple devices to run any software and circumvent the restrictions that Apple notoriously retains over software distributed through its online store. There are security risks of doing so, but many people find it liberating to install their own software.

Although this program is something people would seek out, the weaknesses that its authors discovered could easily be used for malice, security experts say.

There is an irony in the controversy: The site distributing the program offers a fix for the problem, but to get the fix, a user has to first install the program in question. So a user must defy Apple's restrictions to get the protection until Apple comes up with a fix of its own.

Charlie Miller, a prominent hacker of Apple products, said it likely took months to develop the program to break Apple's restrictions, but a criminal might need only a day or two to modify it for nefarious purposes.

Apple Inc. spokeswoman Bethan Lloyd said Thursday the company is "aware of this reported issue and developing a fix." She would not say when the update will be available.

Nation

Air, soil, wells near Mont. oil spill to be tested

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—Indoor air, cropland soils and residential wells downstream of a Yellowstone River oil spill will be tested for contamination after residents raised concerns about hazards from the tens of thousands of gallons of crude that poured into the watercourse, the Environmental Protection Agency said Thursday.

EPA and local officials said they do not expect to find significant health dangers but were acting as a precaution. Some residents in oil-stained areas have complained of nausea, dizziness and shortness of breath that have lingered for days.

An estimated 1,000 barrels of oil, or 42,000 gallons, have fouled areas along the scenic Yellowstone since Friday after a 12-inch pipeline operated by Exxon Mobil Corp. broke near the south-central Montana town of Laurel.

George Nilson, 69, of Billings, said the fumes from oil that washed into his neighbor's property have been overwhelming.

"I've been in it for five days now, and the only way I can breathe is to have all the windows open," he said.

Contractors for the EPA and Exxon Mobil were to collect air samples beginning Thursday or Friday, and the results would take about a week, said EPA on-scene coordinator Steve Merritt. Twelve homes would be tested initially, with possibly more to follow.

Crude oil contains dangerous chemicals including benzene and hydrogen sulfide. But officials said much of those substances would have evaporated quickly after the initial spill, meaning the long-term health risk is low.

Air sampling along the river has not detected either of the chemicals, and water sampling shows no petroleum hydrocarbons that exceed drinking water standards, the EPA said in a written statement late Thursday.

"The air is not inundated with these potentially harmful chemicals," said Yellowstone County Health Officer John Felton. "We can smell things that are no longer creating the same level of hazard."

Soil from agricultural areas and water from hundreds or residential wells also will be tested in coming days, Merritt said. Exxon Mobil's contractors will collect duplicate samples so their results can be verified by government scientists, he said.

The cause of the July 1 pipeline rupture remains under investigation.

Earlier this week, the U.S. Department of Transportation released documents that said Exxon Mobil had reported the line was buried under "at least 12 feet of cover" where it crosses the river near Laurel.

A DOT spokesman Thursday clarified that the 12-foot figure applied to the section of pipeline at the riverbank.

The company's measurements in December showed that the pipeline was 5 to 8 feet below the river bottom. Determining its depth when the pipe failed will be part of the federal investigation into the spill.

AP

Cleanup workers use oil absorbent materials along side the Yellowstone River in Laurel, Montana, Wednesday July 6, 2011.

Also Thursday, Gov. Brian Schweitzer said state officials were leaving a command post set up to coordinate the spill response because Exxon Mobil has blocked public access to the site.

Schweitzer told The Associated Press that state employees cannot be involved in a group that does not make itself transparent to the public under Montana law.

Exxon Mobil security workers have closely guarded access to the command post on the second floor of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Billings, where the EPA and other federal agencies also are stationed. Attempts by the AP to talk to government officials there have been denied.

"The state will no longer have a presence at the Crowne Plaza because Exxon Mobil tells us they can't respect the open government laws we have in Montana," Schweitzer said. "I can't allow state employees to be in meetings at the Crowne Plaza talking about this cleanup without having it open."

An alternate, state-run oil spill office opened Thursday at state Department of Transportation offices in Billings. Schweitzer said the move will improve the flow of public information and not impede the state's ability to respond to the spill.

Exxon Mobil spokesman Alan Jeffers said the command post had been a joint operation between EPA, the state Department of Environmental Quality and the company.

"We do not run the unified command. We are providing security services for the unified command, just like we are providing cleanup serves for the unified command," he said.

EPA spokesman Matthew Allen said in an email to the AP that the agency was still directing the cleanup and would continue "to work hand-in-hand with the state of Montana, other federal agencies, and local government to ensure the spill is cleaned up and the environment restored."

"We've committed to the governor and the people of Montana that we're staying until the job is done and we stand by that commitment," Allen said.

Authorities in Yellowstone County said Thursday they would ease travel restrictions along a road near the spill site after some area residents and members of the media complained about a lack of access.

Those restrictions at times have been enforced by private security contractors working for Exxon Mobil, who turned away reporters or blocked them from areas where cleanup work was going on.

"We have been frustrated since the spill took place because we've burned up time waiting for Exxon officials or other authorities to respond to our request for information and access," said Steve Prosinski, editor of the Billings Gazette. "We realize cleanup is their primary focus but they have a responsibility through us to communicate how the cleanup is going."

Yellowstone County Sheriff John Linder said his deputies were working in conjunction with the company but had not ceded any authority to it. Linder said the restrictions were meant to protect public safety.

Anthony sentence allows her to go free July 17

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Casey Anthony looked ready for freedom. For the first time since her trial began, she let her hair down, smiling and playing with it as she awaited the judge's decision on when she would be released.

Then she turned stone-faced as the sentence was pronounced: Freedom wouldn't come just yet. She'd have to spend six more days in jail for lying to investigators about the death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee.

Late Thursday, Orange County corrections officials said they had "conducted a detailed recalculation of the projected release date" and that Anthony would actually not be freed until July 17.

Thursday's actions mean Anthony will go free nearly two weeks after she was acquitted Tuesday of first-degree murder and other charges in Caylee's death.

The extra time in jail did little to satisfy throngs of angry people convinced of her guilt who gathered outside the courthouse. But it could provide time for the public furor over her acquittal to ease somewhat and give Anthony's attorneys a chance to plan for her safety.

Two days after the verdicts, most of the jury remained silent, with their names still kept secret by the court. One juror explained that the panel agreed to acquit Anthony because prosecutors did not show what happened to the toddler.

When she is released, the 25-year-old Anthony must decide whether to return to a community in which many onlookers long ago concluded that she's a killer, or to a home strained by her defense attorneys' accusations of sexual abuse.

Judge Belvin Perry gave her the maximum sentence of four years for four convictions of lying to authorities. He denied a defense request to combine the misdemeanor counts, which could have made her eligible for immediate release.

"As a result of those four specific, distinct lies, law enforcement expended great time and resources looking for Caylee Marie Anthony," the judge said.

With time served and credit for good behavior, she is now due out on July 17, her 1,007th day in jail.

Outside the courthouse, a cluster of protesters chanted "Justice for Caylee" as they waved signs that said "Arrest the Jury!!" and "Jurors 1-12 Guilty of Murder." One man had duct tape with a heart-shaped sticker over his mouth, similar to the way prosecutors contend duct tape was used to kill Caylee. Increased police presence included officers on horseback.

Storms, lightning threaten final shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Rain in the forecast threatened to delay the last space shuttle launch, set for Friday, and a lightning strike near the pad briefly caused a flurry of concern at NASA before engineers concluded the spaceship was OK.

The lightning bolt hit a water tower about 500 feet from the launch pad at midday Thursday, the space agency said. Technicians hurried out to check for electrical problems, but a review board ruled out any damage.

Over the years, lightning has struck on or near the launch pad occasionally, delaying a few launches but causing no damage.

The forecast for Friday, meanwhile, looked dismal, with only a 30 chance of acceptable weather at launch time, 11:26 a.m.

NASA test director Jeff Spaulding pointed out that space shuttles have managed to launch with worse forecasts.

"There's some opportunity there," he said Thursday as the rain set in. "It's a really tough day if you make a decision not to go and it turns out to be good weather."

NASA is closing out its 30-year space shuttle program to take aim at asteroids and Mars, destinations favored by the White House. Private companies will take over the job of hauling cargo and crews to the International Space Station, freeing NASA up to focus on points beyond.

ACROSS THE NATION

Secret Service probing NY art spy camera project

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. Secret Service is investigating a Brooklyn media artist who reportedly installed a custom app on computers in an Apple store that automatically took pictures of people staring at the screen and displayed the images on other computers. A Secret Service spokesman would not comment Thursday, saying the investigation is ongoing. On the artist's website, Kyle McDonald describes the project as "People Staring at Computers 2011 A Photographic Intervention." A video shows patrons in an Apple store gazing at a computer screen in which photographs of other faces pop up.

Small plane crashes into hospital in Calif.

WATSONVILLE, Calif. (AP)—Authorities say a small plane has crashed into a community hospital in central California. Witnesses told the Santa Cruz Sentinel that the plane took a nose dive and landed partially into the first floor of the building, just a few blocks from the Watsonville Municipal Airport. The crash happened at about 7:30 p.m. Thursday. A fire dispatcher had no word on any possible fatalities.

Ill. man gets 2 years for taking rings off corpse

WHEATON, Ill. (AP)—A former Illinois hospital worker who stole engagement and wedding rings off the fingers of a deceased patient and pawned them to pay his cable bill has been sentenced to two years in prison. Frederick Tapley pleaded guilty to felony theft for taking the rings from a 72-year-old woman who died of cancer last year at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove, a Chicago suburb. Tapley's attorney sought probation for the 37-year-old Romeoville man, who told police he was overwhelmed by financial problems. The rings were valued at more than $3,000. Tapley pawned them for $200.

Asia

Taliban commander back on the air in Pakistan

KHAR, Pakistan (AP)—One of Pakistan's most notorious Taliban radio voices is back on the air after the army raided his stronghold last year and drove him across the border into Afghanistan.

The resurgence of Maulvi Faqir Mohammed—also one of the Pakistani Taliban's top commanders—illustrates the resilience of militants fighting to topple the U.S.-allied Pakistani government and the growing problem of sanctuaries in eastern Afghanistan that allow fighters to elude the army's grasp.

"We will return and enforce the golden system of Islam," Mohammed said in a recent radio broadcast from his new base in Afghanistan. "All of those who have turned their backs on us—like we are gone for good—should seek forgiveness from Allah."

Militants and their supporters in Pakistan have long used illegal FM radio stations to spread their message and incite violence against the government. The tactic is hard to counter because the equipment needed is cheap and easily transportable.

Mohammed was one of the most prominent militant radio personalities before the army invaded his enclave early last year in the Bajur tribal area, about 125 miles (200 kilometers) northwest of the Pakistani capital of Islamabad.

Many of the militants in Bajur, including Mohammed, simply slipped across the border into Kunar province, an area of Afghanistan where the U.S. has largely withdrawn its troops. Kunar has turned into a staging ground for large-scale attacks inside Pakistan, according to the Pakistani army.

The most recent such assault in Bajur occurred Monday when around 60 Pakistani Taliban militants sent by Mohammed stormed a paramilitary checkpoint, killing one soldier and wounding three others, said local officials.

Mohammed claimed responsibility for the attack, as well a similar one by at least 100 militants on several border villages in Bajur in mid-June that killed at least five people.

"Our fighters carried out these two attacks from Afghanistan, and we will launch more such attacks inside Afghanistan and in Pakistan," said Mohammed over the Voice of Sharia radio in his measured, matter-of-fact style.

His on-air reply after the June attack: "Don't dare stand in the way of those who are following the path of God."

Radio is the main connection to the outside world for most tribesmen in Bajur and other areas along the Afghan-Pakistan border because they can't afford satellite television dishes, and the infrastructure needed for cable TV is usually nonexistent.

Mohammed and his associates transmit for two and a half hours every day beginning at 8 p.m., although sometimes the broadcast is overpowered by a station run by the paramilitary Frontier Corps, said Gul Ahmed Jan, the owner of a grocery store near Khar, the main town in Bajur.

Mohammed gives half-hour sermons three times per week in which he encourages locals to participate in jihad, or holy war, and warns them against cooperating with Pakistani authorities.

Violence in Pakistan's Karachi kills nearly 50

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Gunmen opened fire on two buses and waged street battles in Pakistan's largest city Thursday, killing at least 22 people as part of a spate of violence that has claimed 49 lives in three days, officials said.

It was some of the worst strife so far this year in Karachi, a city of 18 million that has long been a hotbed of crime and clashes—much of it linked to ethnic, sectarian and political divisions. Police had no immediate comment on the possible motives for the latest killings.

At least 22 people were killed Thursday, said Sharfuddin Memon, a security adviser for Sindh province, where Karachi is located. Ten died when gunmen targeted two buses, he said.

Memon said 27 other people were killed in sporadic shootings Tuesday and Wednesday. He feared the toll could go higher as more violence was reported.

Some Pakistani television reporters wore bulletproof vests as they filed their reports. Live TV footage showed gunmen in makeshift bunkers and exchanging shots.

Karachi's most powerful political party, the Muttahida Qaumi Movement, or MQM, threatened to call for a city-wide strike unless the federal government brings the bloodshed under control.

"We reserve a right to give a strike call," said the party's lawmaker, Raza Haroon.

The MQM is suspected of links to some of the armed gangs in the city, as are some rival political parties such as President Asif Ali Zardari's Pakistan People's party and its ally, Awami National Party, a Pashtun origin liberal party.

Irshad Bokhari, another Karachi official, said trucking companies took their vehicles off the road and gas stations were shut down amid the mayhem.

An Associated Press reporter saw roads that were nearly deserted.

"We are kind of imprisoned in our own houses," said a resident, Adeel Anwar.

ASIA BRIEFS

5.6 quake rattles Japan near Fukushima site

NEW YORK (AP)—An earthquake registering 5.6 shook the Pacific off Honshu, Japan, the U.S. Geological Survey said Thursday. That is the area of northeast Japan ravaged by a March 11 quake and tsunami that knocked out power at the Fukushima nuclear plant. No immediate damage or casualties were reported from the quake that struck at 3:35 a.m. Friday (1835 GMT Thursday), the USGS said. No tsunami watch was immediately issued. The epicenter of the quake was some 51 miles (83 kilometers) southeast of Fukushima, in Honshu, Japan, the USGS said. The quake was centered some 28 miles (45 kilometers deep, the agency said.

Train hits bus in India, killing 35 after wedding

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—A train hit a stopped bus at a railway crossing in northern India early Thursday, killing at least 35 people returning from a wedding party, an official said. At least 39 others were injured when the train dragged the mangled bus more than 1,600 feet (500 meters) before stopping, local administrator Selva Kumar said. The bus, filled with about 80 people, had stopped at the unmanned crossing after its axle broke and then was hit by the speeding train, she said.

Bigger crowd greets vacationing Suu Kyi in Myanmar

BAGAN, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi has drawn the biggest crowd so far of her trip to the ancient city of Bagan, as bystanders overcame their fears to approach her at a market. Bagan resident Min Min said about 1,000 people greeted Suu Kyi on the fourth day of her private vacation Thursday. Some presented her flowers and other gifts. The crowd was about three times as big as the largest to previously see her. Earlier, some people visibly kept their distance as plainclothes police stood by.

World

Yemen's injured president makes video address

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemen's embattled president, looking weakened and stiff, on Thursday made his first public appearance since he was injured in a blast on his palace compound last month, in an apparent bid to dispel growing speculation about his condition.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who is undergoing treatment in Saudi Arabia, lashed out at opponents seeking to oust him from power, but his dramatically changed appearance belied his show of defiance.

White plaster casts covered his arms and hands, and his face appeared noticeably darker and thinner than before the attack. He sported a short beard and his hair was covered with a red-and-white-checkered Arab headdress cloth, both unusual for the clean-shaven, suit-wearing leader.

In a prerecorded video statement, Saleh said he'd undergone more than eight "successful operations," but did not say if and when he would return to Yemen.

The leader of Yemen's ruling party, who is close to Saleh, said the president's brief speech helped set the record straight. "His mere appearance on TV has clarified things for people and silenced many tongues by showing that the president is in good health," said the politician, Yasser Yemani.

However, Mohammed al-Thahiri, a protest leader in the Yemeni capital of Sanaa, said Saleh's career is over. "It's clear form the way that he looks that he can't come back. This man is no longer able to rule the country," said al-Thahiri.

Wearing a white robe and sitting rigidly in an armchair, Saleh accused "terrorist elements" of carrying out the June 3 attack. He said dialogue is the only way out of the political crisis that has brought this impoverished corner of the Arabian Peninsula to the brink of civil war.

"Where are the conscious people? Where are the honest people? Where are the believers and the men who fear Allah? Why don't they stand with dialogue?" he said. "They should stand with dialogue so we can find solutions."

"Many have understood democracy incorrectly, through incorrect practices," Saleh said in the seven-minute video recorded in Saudi Arabia and broadcast on Yemen state TV. He accused his opponents of practicing the politics of "hijacking" and "arm-twisting" while describing himself as a defender of democracy and stability.

"We love participation, though the constitution, though the law," he said.

AP

In this video image taken from a prerecorded video and broadcast Thursday July 7, 2011 on Yemen state TV from Saudi Arabia, Yemen's embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh lashed out at opponents seeking to drive him from power in his first public appearance since he was injured last month in a blast at his palace compound.

NATO denies trying to aid Libyan rebels' advance

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—NATO denied a Libyan government charge Thursday that the alliance is intentionally using its airstrikes to assist rebel advances, saying it is sticking to its mandate to protect civilians.

Wing Cmdr. Mike Bracken, an alliance spokesman in Naples, Italy, said NATO is "not involved in the ground battles," although he acknowledged the alliance is tracking the fighting between rebels and forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi.

Libya's Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Kaim accused NATO earlier Thursday of intensifying its bombing campaign and backing foreign mercenaries to lay the groundwork for an advance by rebels trying to topple Gadhafi's regime.

In an early morning interview with The Associated Press, Kaim said increased bombings in recent days represent the "final phase" of NATO's air campaign. But he said the push will fail and that civilians will be the ones to pay the price.

Kaim said NATO targeted police checkpoints in the Nafusa mountains southwest of Tripoli ahead of a rebel advance toward the village of Qawalish, which rebel fighters said they seized Wednesday.

A fuel depot in the key eastern oil town of Brega was also destroyed, Kaim said. NATO said it hit equipment used to refuel government military vehicles.

The intensified barrage of airstrikes, particularly in the west of the country, is focused on targeting civilian infrastructure and police checkpoints, he said.

He also alleged that NATO was increasing efforts to provide weapons to rebel fighters.

WORLD BRIEFS

Syrian protests hurl stones at troops in key city

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian protesters hurled stones and set roadblocks of burning tires against government forces trying to enter a key opposition city Thursday, nearly a week after a massive protest against the regime of President Bashar Assad, activists said. Earlier, dozens of families fled the central city of Hama fearing a full-scale crackdown by Assad's troops. The central Syrian city has become a center of resistance in the four-month-old uprising and poses a potential dilemma for Assad's government. A major offensive could make the city a fresh rallying cry for the opposition, but Assad's regime also does not want a repeat of last Friday's stunning rally, when an estimated 300,000 people protested.

Chavez looks to inner circle as he fights cancer

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Hugo Chavez has built an entire career on being Venezuela's one-man political messiah. Now his precarious health appears to be prompting him to look into his inner circle for those he thinks are most capable of managing his socialist revolution while he undergoes cancer treatment. Those standing out include Chavez's elder brother, his foreign minister, his energy minister and a few trusted military officers, both current and former. They are all time-tested loyalists and committed leftists. Yet if Chavez has his mind set on any particular heir to power, he hasn't yet sent clear signals as to whom it would be. His mentor Fidel Castro stepped down in 2008 in favor of his brother and vice president Raul, but that line of succession had been openly announced for decades.

Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, July 9, 2011

Iron Age artifacts unearthed during Cebu field school

An archaeological dig in the Philippines for students of the University of Guam has uncovered a treasure trove of Iron Age artifacts that date back to more than a thousand years ago.

"Burials, pots and other artifacts were uncovered that date back to the Iron Age, which spans the centuries from a thousand to 1,500 years ago," said John Peterson, director of UOG's Micronesian Area Research Center. "Also discovered is what we believe to be a ceramic lingling-o pendant, which is a fertility symbol."

Cebu was the first seat of the Spanish colonial government in the Philippines and the field school aimed, in part, to document the impact of Spanish colonization on indigenous lifeways in the shadow of the parish church in San Remigio.

The University of Guam offered the summer 2011 archaeological field school in Cebu in collaboration with the Archaeological Studies Program of the University of the Philippines, San Carlos University, and the National Museum of the Philippines. The field school provided participants intensive training in archaeological site excavation, mapping, and artifact analysis and interpretation as well as training in landscape analysis.

Archaeologists and students participating in the Cebu Field School unearthed several artifacts and burial sites including this object that Field School archaeologists believe to be a lingling-o pendant, which is a fertility symbol.

UOG

One of the burial sites uncovered during the Cebu Field School.

UOG

According to the Philippine Presidential Communications Operations Office, the artifacts are being brought to Museo sa Sugbu located at the provincial capital because San Remigio does not have a museum. However, the San Remigio mayor recently announced city officials' plans to build a museum to house the artifacts.

Students learned archaeological field techniques by working in real field conditions in collaboration with students and staff from the U.S. mainland, the Philippines, and the Luce Asian Archaeology Program Fellows of the Department of Anthropology, University of Hawaii-Manoa.

The project is co-directed by Dr. Stephen Acabado, assistant professor of anthropological archaeology, and Dr. John Peterson, director of the Micronesian Area Research Center. They worked with their colleagues from the University of the Philippines, the National Museum of the Philippines, and the University of San Carlos.

"Students acquired hands-on archaeological field expertise," said Acabado. "I hope that the combination of field work and socializing with descendant communities will provide them with the concept of social responsibility needed by social scientists." ***(UOG)***

Mapua Institute of Technology president Reynaldo B. Vea and University of Guam president Robert A. Underwood sign an agreement of cooperation on June 21, 2011. Mapua is the only institution in East Asia with ABET accredited engineering programs.

UOG

UOG, Mapua Institute of Technology ink accord for engineering program

University of Guam president Robert A. Underwood and Mapua Institute of Technology president Reynaldo B. Vea signed an agreement on June 21 to develop academic relations between the two institutions that will support UOG's efforts to launch an engineering school.

The Mapúa Institute of Technology's electrical engineering, electronics engineering and computer engineering have been granted accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, the recognized accreditor of engineering and technology programs in the United States.

The Mapua Institute of Technology is the only educational institution in the Philippines to achieve ABET accreditation.

The agreement will enhance relations between the two institutions and further the development of academic and cultural exchanges. The two institutions hope to promote cooperation in such areas as faculty and student exchanges, training and study programs, collaborative teaching projects, collaborative scholarship, and other joint endeavors according to principles of reciprocity, common understanding, and mutual benefit.

"This agreement will enable us to forge a strong relationship as we seek ways to enhance our programs," said Underwood. "This relationship with the Mapua Institute of Technology brings us in close communication with the only institution with ABET accredited programs in East Asia. Their close geographic proximity will benefit our students and both of our institutions."

ABET, Inc. is the recognized accreditor for college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology. Among the most respected accreditation organizations in the U.S., ABET has provided leadership and quality assurance in higher education for over 75 years. ABET accredits over 3,100 programs at more than 600 colleges and universities worldwide. ***(UOG)***

World Bank: Ph economy's prospects good

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Prospects remain favorable for the Philippine economy in 2011, with investments, private consumption, services and exports expected to post gains, the World Bank said Wednesday.

The bank's quarterly Philippine report said the end of trade disruptions linked to Japan's post-disaster reconstruction is seen to benefit manufacturing and construction, while solid growth is forecast for the country's business process outsourcing industry.

World Bank Senior Economist Eric Le Borgne said rising mineral prices may fast track investments and increase production in the mining sector. The services and agriculture sectors also are likely to contribute to growth.

The report maintained the bank's forecast of 5 percent gross domestic product growth rate in 2011 and 5.4 percent in 2012.

But it said growth could potentially be higher because the government's early gains in tackling corruption and improving the investment climate could boost domestic investment.

Exports are seen to recover due to a technical rebound in exports affected by Japan's tsunami and nuclear plant disaster and a potential boost in exports as Philippine companies and workers take part in the reconstruction of affected areas, the report added.

Private consumption is seen to be buoyed by strong wage growth and employment among relatively well paid sectors like the BPO, it said.

World Bank Country Director Bert Hofman said the Philippines' recent performance indicates that its economy has stabilized since the global financial crisis, with more robust and less variable growth. Prior to the global recession that started in 2008, the country was perceived to have a weak fiscal position, making it vulnerable to shocks and volatility.

The report said the challenge now is to achieve broad-based growth that benefits the poor.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said the report "recognizes the significance of the reforms undertaken by the administration, and how these measures provide stability as we pursue inclusive growth."

Philippines has record 11 billionaires—Forbes

MANILA, Philippines (AFP)—A booming stock market has expanded the Philippines' billionaires' list to a record 11, with the combined wealth of the 40 richest also hitting an all-time high, Forbes.com said Thursday.

Shopping mall king Henry Sy, 86, saw his assets surge 44 percent to $7.2 billion over the past year and remains the Philippines' richest man, the website said in its annual update of the country's wealthiest.

Lucio Tan, 77, tobacco tycoon and former crony of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, kept his spot at number-two with $2.8 billion, while budget airline king John Gokongwei, 83, remained third-richest with $2.4 billion.

Six Filipinos became billionaires for the first time as the paper value of their shares in listed companies soared, boosting their select group's numbers to a record 11.

Sy

Tan

Gokongwei

"The Philippines' economy grew only 4.9 percent in the first quarter of the year… off from 8.4 percent in 2010, but the country's stock market is booming," Forbes said, explaining the surge.

"The stock exchange's composite index is up 27 percent since last year, surpassing its 2007 benchmark."

This also lifted the combined fortunes of the country's 40 richest to an all-time high $34 billion, up from last year's $22.8 billion, the website reported.

Among the six new billionaires are construction magnate David Consunji, 90, and port operator Enrique Razon, at 51 the youngest Filipino with 10-figure assets.

The others are San Miguel Corp. chairman Eduardo Cojuangco, 76, former finance minister Roberto Ongpin, 74, banker George Ty, 78, and hamburger king Tony Tan Caktiong, 58, of the Jollibee restaurant chain.

Ongpin, a key San Miguel shareholder, was the biggest gainer as his wealth increased more than four-fold to become ninth-richest at $1.3 billion, owing mostly to his other investments in a listed gold mining firm.

Jaime Zobel de Ayala, 77, former head of top conglomerate Ayala Corp., slid two rungs to sixth-richest but his fortune still grew 35.71 percent to $1.9 billion.

Property developer Andrew Tan, 58, became the country's fourth-wealthiest man with $2 billion.

The youngest on this year's Filipino richest list was Edgar Sia, a 34-year-old college dropout now worth $85 million after selling his chicken-barbecue restaurant chain Mang Inasal to Jollibee.

Forbes said the Filipino rich were also among Asia's most magnanimous.

Lucio Tan sent 700,000 bottles of water to tsunami-hit Japan, and his charity foundation has been a big backer of teacher training, medical missions and housing for the poor, it added.

AP

LANDSLIDE

Rescuers and residents carry the remains of a victim in a casket after being dug up from the site of one of the landslides overnight at a remote village in Valencia township, Bukidnon province in southern Philippines Tuesday July 5, 2011. Officials said the death toll in the landslides caused by torrential rains rose to five after two children were retrieved Tuesday from the second area. Eight more people remain missing.

Philippine economy likely grew by 6 percent in second quarter

By DORIS C. DUMLAO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The Philippine economy likely expanded by nearly 6 percent in the second quarter, and should grow at even faster pace of 6.5 percent in the second half as the United States and Japan get back on track, according to a joint research by First Metro Investment Corp. and the University of Asia and the Pacific.

"We have become more bullish on the economy for the coming quarters, as both new economic indicators and business sentiment have turned positive," said the FMIC-UA&P research issued Thursday.

The study said that Philippine exports expanded at a double-digit pace in the second quarter given the strength in East Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian nations.

Export earnings are expected to further accelerate this second half as the economies in the region expand at a faster pace due to heightened domestic spending.

It added that US and Japan's healthy growth should also boost demand for Philippine products.

The research also expected remittances, a key driver of the domestic economy, to have grown by over 5 percent in the second quarter. Money sent home by Filipinos living and working overseas is in turn seen providing an additional boost to the economy, especially if the peso depreciates slightly or remains stable against the US dollar.

"The peso-dollar rate is likely to remain volatile in second half as a credible and lasting solution to the Greek debt problems is not expected to emerge; it will have a slight appreciation bias by the fourth quarter as more foreign investments get attracted to the robustness of the economy," FMIC-UA&P said.

The research also sees stable inflation for the year, even as the central bank's 5-percent inflation ceiling may be breached this second semester.

Given the inflation outlook, the research said the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas may hike rates by another 50 basis points.

"The effect on long-term rates, as empirical evidence shows, will be minimal, and likely to be more than offset by continuing liquidity expansion driven by the sizeable domestic savings," the research said.

Given this favorable view on the economy, FMIC-UA&P is upbeat on fixed-income assets and equities.

On fixed income, it said the next few months should show better results as the government starts to pump prime and borrow more funds from the money market, resulting in more supply in the market.

Gloria Arroyo may face plunder over PCSO spy fund

By CATHY C. YAMSUAN,
TJ BURGONIO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, now Pampanga representative, may face charges of plunder over allegations that she had approved the allocation of hundreds of millions of pesos in charity funds for possibly nonexistent projects.

The smoking gun: board memoranda of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office requesting additional funds for intelligence operations that she approved from 2008 to 2010.

Former PCSO general manager Rosario Uriarte on Thursday confirmed before the Senate blue ribbon committee that Arroyo had signed or initialed the memos in her presence.

The PCSO spent P325 million in confidential intelligence funds from 2008 to 2010, according to Uriarte.

"These are very damaging. The Ombudsman should take a look at these testimonies and see what liability the former president has," Senator Franklin Drilon said after the hearing.

Sen. Teofisto Guingona III, chair of the blue ribbon committee, was more forthright: "It implicates the former president in this whole mystery. It makes her a coconspirator…When you steal more than P50 million, it's plunder."

The anti-plunder law defines plunder as the direct or indirect amassing by a public official of at least P50 million in ill-gotten wealth through a combination or a series of acts like misappropriating public funds and illegal disposition of government assets. Plunder is a nonbailable offense.

In Malacañang, presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said the Aquino administration would not hesitate to file charges against Arroyo if the Senate probe would yield enough proof to link her to any wrongdoing.

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, however, said the committee could not pin down Arroyo over Uriarte's disclosures.

"Of course the approving authority is the President. The President probably relied on their representation. There are a lot of things that have to be unearthed first before you can pin down the responsibility for the approving authority," Enrile later told reporters.

Being a member of the House of Representatives, Arroyo could not be invited to the inquiry.

Grilled by senators for hours, Uriarte said the PCSO made the biggest spending—P138 million out of the approved P160 million in intelligence fund—in 2010, an election year.

Arroyo signed the PCSO memos requesting additional intelligence funds from 2008 to 2010 and in Uriarte's presence. The former PCSO executive pointed out that all intelligence funds needed the President's approval.

No immune from suit

Drilon deferred to the Office of the Ombudsman on what course of action to take against Arroyo, but he said she was not immune from suit.

After the hearing, former PCSO Director Manuel Morato concluded: "The ultimate person they want to pin down is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo through the PCSO, through me, through us. It leads to that."

In her testimony, Uriarte said the charity agency disbursed the P138 million to stamp out the illegal numbers games in preparation for the "roll-out" of the small-town lottery (STL).

Apart from saying that the fund was spent for "intelligence assets" keeping close tabs on the possible rigging in the numbers games in different provinces, she failed to give specifics as to how this was used.

"The more you talk, the deeper you implicate yourself. If you are charged for the disbursement of the fund, you can't respond to the judge like that. You'll be jailed," Enrile told her.

"Better be careful. This is a series of transactions. It comes under the definition of plunder," he added.

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DAILY LIFE AP
Boys stand on rocks in the seashore in suburban Pasay City south of Manila, Philippines, Wednesday, July 6, 2011.

Philippines' OFW deployment slows down in 2010

By JEREMAIAH M. OPININAO
OFW JOURNALISM CONSORTIUM

MANILA—The country exited from the 2008 global economic crisis, but the numbers of Filipinos deployed for overseas work slowed down in post-crisis 2010.

Final 2010 deployment data showed that migrant worker deployment dropped to 3.39 percent compared to 15.1 percent in crisis-year 2009.

In actual numbers, 1,470,826 new-hire and re-hired land- and sea-based overseas workers were deployed in 2010, still higher than the 1,422,586 in 2009 (the height of the crisis' impact).

Growth rates are computed by subtracting the difference between the current and previous years' totals and by dividing that difference with the total of the previous year.

Actually, the slowdown was already felt in 2009: the growth between 2009 deployment and 2008 deployment (1,236,013) was 14.7 percent.

The growth rate difference between 2008 and 2009 was only 0.4 percent, data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) showed.

The 2010-versus-2009 growth rate slowdown was felt in both land-based and sea-based workers. For land-based workers, the 2010 deployment (1,123,676) was only 2.89 percent higher than the 2009 figure (1,092,162).

As for seafarers, the 2010 deployment —a historic high of 347,150— is a 5.06 percent growth from 2009 deployment (330,424).

The slowdown in migrant deployment somewhat matches the slowdown of the growth of overseas Filipinos' remittances between 2009 and 2010.

The US$18.762 billion of total remittances in 2010 was an 8.16 percent growth from 2009 remittances (US$17.384 billion). The 2009 figure is 5.61 percent bigger than 2008 numbers (US$16.426 billion).

Both figures are declines from the 2008-versus-2007 growth for remittances: 13.68 percent.

Remittances from land-based overseas Filipinos in 2010 (US$14.956 billion) is a 7.24 percent growth from 2009 figures (US$13.947 billion). Figures for 2009 are 4.15 percent higher than the US$13.392 billion in 2008.

Seafarers, for their part, sent US$3.806 billion in 2010 or 11.93 higher than the 2009 volumes worth US$3.4 billion. The 2009-versus-2008 growth rate was 12.06 percent, while the 2008-versus-2007 growth rate of seafarers' remittances was 35.69 percent.

Last Wednesday, First Metro Investment Corp., the investment arm of the Metrobank Group, said overseas Filipinos' remittances of the overseas Filipino workers may slow down this year due to "external uncertainties."

First Metro president Roberto Juanchito Dispo said that remittance growth rate will be at 5 percent, or lower from the earlier projection of 8 percent.

Table: Growth rates of migrant worker deployment and overseas remittances, 2007-2010

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total migrant worker deployment	1,077,623	1,236,013	1,422,586	1,470,826
Growth rates (%)		1.42	15.10	3.39
• Total land-based deployment	811,070	974,399	1,092,162	1,123,676
Growth rates (%)		20.14	12.10	2.89
• Total sea-based deployment	266,553	261,614	330,424	347,150
Growth rates (%)		(1.85)	26.340	5.06
Total overseas Filipinos' remittances (US$ million)	14,449,928	16,426,854	17,348,052	18,762,989
Growth rates (%)		13.68	5.61	8.16
• Total land-based remittances	12,213,565	13,392,301	13,947,640	14,956,881
Growth rates (%)		9.65	4.15	7.24
• Total sea-based remittances	2,236,363	3,034,553	3,400,412	3,806,108
Growth rates (%)		35.69	12.06	11.93

Sources: Philippine Overseas Employment Administration and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Saudi Arabia still top destination for OFWs

By JEREMAIAH M. OPININAO
OFW JOURNALISM CONSORTIUM

MANILA—Amid a slowdown in deployment to Saudi Arabia, the Kingdom remains the top destination for new-hire and rehired overseas Filipino workers.

Total migrant worker deployment (both newhires and re-hires) in 2010 for Saudi Arabia reached 293,049, only a 0.56 percent growth from 2009 deployment of 291,419.

Saudi Arabia is still way ahead of other destination countries for migrant workers in 2010: United Arab Emirates (201,214), Hong Kong (101,340), Qatar (87,813), Singapore (70,251), Kuwait (53,010), Taiwan (36,866), Italy (25,595), Bahrain (15,434), and Canada (13,885).

A fresh pronouncement that the Kingdom will not issue working visas anymore to Filipino and Indonesian domestic workers starting July 2 will impact on deployment figures for 2011, migration analysts said.

The slowdown of deployment to Saudi Arabia was because of the negative growth rate for new-hires. The 119,379 new-hire OFWs deployed to Saudi in 2010 was 5.75 percent less than the 2009 figure of 126,661.

Among the top ten destination countries for new-hire countries, second-ranked UAE (-8.95 percent), third-ranked Qatar (-8.61), and eighth-ranked Bahrain (-11.34) experienced growth declines.

For rehires, the 2010 deployment figure of 173,670 for Saudi Arabia is 5.41 percent higher than the 2009 figure of 164,758.

Third-ranked Hong Kong Special Administrative Reion (-1.32 percent) and eighth-ranked Canada (-14.2) were the countries in the top ten for deploying new hires that experienced growth rate declines.

New-hire and rehired land-based workers deployed in 2010 (1,123,676) was only 2.89 percent higher than the 2009 figure (1,092,162).

There was a negative growth rate in the deployment of newhires, by 2.22 percent (given the 2010 deployment of 341,966 versus the 349,715 in 2009).

On the reverse, given the 781,710 rehires deployed in 2010 and the 742,447 rehires deployed in 2009, there was a 5.29 percent growth for rehires.

Growth rates are computed by subtracting the difference between the current and previous years' totals and by dividing that difference with the total of the previous year.

MONEY MATTERS

Shopping for a car

By RANDELL TIONGSON
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Question: I am planning to get a car. I have some savings set aside for this purpose. Should I buy a car on cash or financing? Should I get a brand-new or a pre-owned one?—Kris Lim, via e-mail

Answer: The first thing you need to decide is if you really need a car. The cost of a car goes beyond its acquisition cost as cars require maintenance, meaning additional costs, and they depreciate faster than the US dollars (pun intended). A car is not an asset or investment in the strict sense because you can't expect it to generate income (unless it's a taxi or some sort of commercial vehicle) and its value will never appreciate. Buying a car is something you really need to think about and you should closely look at your budget first.

However, and contrary to what many "experts" say, owning a car is a reasonable aspiration. Cars help you become productive as it frees you from Metro Manila's highly unreliable and cumbersome public transport system. During rush hours and rainy seasons, hailing a cab, riding the MRT or the bus, or getting on a tricycle becomes very difficult, stressful and, well, irritating. Owning a car gets you to your destination in a more convenient fashion which should ultimately help you become productive, in a way.

Your situation is a very relative one. A brand-new car means it is trouble-free for the first two years or so and your cost will be limited to routine maintenance. However, brand-new cars are much more expensive than pre-owned cars. A two- to three-year-old car costs 30 to 40 percent less than a brand-new unit of the same model. I personally prefer pre-owned cars since I'm always watching my wallet, but if you want peace of mind, you can go for a brand-new unit. Peace of mind has a price to be paid for and if you are willing to pay that price and understand the cost differential, then go ahead.

Let me be a bit more personal here and share my experience with you. I used to prefer newer cars for a long time but I got tired of high acquisition costs and the quick depreciation of cars. For some time now, I have decided to keep much older cars—as I said, I always watch my wallet. However, keeping older cars comes with a cost and not just financial (maintenance issues). I have found myself inconvenienced because my older cars would conk out on me at the worst possible times. Using them for long distance drive can also be nerve wracking.

Last week, I had the opportunity to test-drive a Chevrolet Captiva for a few days. Driving a nifty new SUV was such a surreal feeling as the Captiva is such a well-built car with a dose of nifty conveniences (DVD player, GPS, etc.) and it seems perfect for my family. My Captiva experience, though only for a few days, made me rethink about my ultra-pragmatic decision of keeping old cars.

Well, brand-new or pre-owned car? The decision is entirely up to you—assuming you have considered costs and all.

As to buying it cash or financing—buying cash is the most financially prudent thing to do as the interests on car loans can be substantial. Add that to the depreciation of your car will really make you think twice. However, if buying the car with cash is not a viable option, you may want to consider the following before you take out a car loan:

Shop for good rates.

Check out different banks that offer financing. Ask for lower interest and you might be surprised that some of them are willing to lower their rates.

Go directly to the lenders and not course the loan through the dealers. Banks give commissions to dealers so if you go straight to the banks, chances are you can get lower rates. The same works for car insurances.

The higher your down payment, the better.

Interests are charged as an add-on rate and not on diminishing balances which means the effective rate is higher for car loans. To reduce interest expense, pay higher equity—say 40-50 percent. Many programs entice us with low down payments because that means we will pay more interest. Nothing wrong with that, that's how financial institutions earn but we must always be prudent at how we spend our hard-earned money.

Pre-owned cars.

Contrary to popular notion, pre-owned cars can be financed.

Enjoy your new toy but I would like to remind you that if your buying of a car would result in a drastic restriction of quality living, better think about it harder. If you are buying a car as a status symbol, don't.

"Some who are poor pretend to be rich; others who are rich pretend to be poor."— Proverbs 13:7, NLT

Randell Tiongson, RFP, is an advocate of life and personal finance. He is a director of the Registered Financial Planner Philippines. For questions, write to randell@randelltiongson.com. To know more about RFP program, visit www.rfp.ph or e-mail info@rfp.ph.

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Claudine Barretto saddened by show biz intrigues

By **BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The question gave her pause: How were things between her and former mentor Johnny Manahan?

The usually loquacious Claudine Barretto replied with another question: "Do I have to answer that?"

Apparently, all is still not well since their very public falling-out last year, following Claudine's also very public altercation with erstwhile friend Angelica Panganiban.

"We have no communication," Claudine told the Inquirer in a phone interview. She was on the set of her new GMA 7 series, "Spooky Nights: Nuno sa Feng Shui." She added: "Both sides are quiet. No one's talking anymore."

Last year, everyone chatted up a storm over the Claudine-Angelica word war. Mr. M, as the Star Magic boss is known in the biz, joined in the fray.

Claudine Barretto

She "learned a lot" from that episode, Claudine said: "Especially, to be more careful in choosing the people I let into my life. I'm more cautious now. I'm scared of getting hurt again. It's painful to lose friends."

Is she open to patching things up with her former Kapamilyas? "I'm open to anything," she quipped. "In time… when things are more settled, when people are less emotional."

Her marriage is not spared by intrigue-mongers. "[My husband] Raymart and I just ignore the rumors," Claudine said. "We're okay. We're happy."

So how does she cope with the incessant talk? "We just pray. We're a prayerful family."

Actually, she's also too busy with work to mind it. After her run on "Spooky Nights," she is set to start taping the new show "Iglot," also on GMA 7.

"Iglot" reunites her with fellow "Ang TV" graduate Jolina Magdangal and former ABS-CBN colleagues Marvin Agustin and Luis Alandy.

Said Claudine: "I never got to work with Jolina over at ABS-CBN. We did a movie, 'Flames,' but we were in separate episodes. She was paired with Marvin; I, with [the late] Rico [Yan]," she said. "We'll do a lot of catching up on the set."

RUSHES

Son 'not happy' about Vicki's engagement

By **THE ENTERTAINMENT STAFF**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Today, we open with a quote that is too touchingly straightforward to resist. Quark Henares, asked about his mom Vicki Belo's engagement to Hayden Kho: "I'm not happy about it. And in fact, I don't think anyone outside the two [of them] are. But I love my mother and value her happiness above everything, so I will support her. I'll still be keeping watch on Hayden though, and if he hurts her again, I think I will really have to kill him."

P15,000 date

Gay Celebrity has made his pursuit of handsome guys a running gag among friends and fans.

Turned out, GC was actively chasing Mestizo Hunk. According to a mole, GC finally scored a date with MH.

How much did one night of pleasure cost? Said the mole: "At least P15,000."

Nasty beauty loses fan

Giddy Fan admired Stunning Starlet from a distance. When they finally met at a shoot in the house of GF's boss, love quickly turned to hatred.

SS wanted to borrow a towel from GF's boss, who was more than eager to oblige. Wanting to impress SS, GF gave her a new, expensive towel from the boss' collection. Unimpressed, SS snapped: "Are you sure no one else has used this before?"

SS also borrowed slippers. Excitedly, GF complied. SS again clucked: "Are you sure these are brand new?"

SS proceeded to pray, "to exorcise bad spirits that could attach themselves" to the flip-flops.

Another diva fit

Controversial Star made coworkers wait for hours on the set of a TV commercial. When the staff reached CS, she casually said, "Let's just reschedule. I'm not feeling beautiful today."

Judging from CS's recent weight gain, it may take a while before they can reschedule.

Dazed and confused

According to a source, Handsome Actor, at his lowest, succumbed to the flesh trade. It seemed improbable because HA comes from a well-off family that is well-respected in the biz.

Then again, HA, in his youth, was often dazed and confused—allegedly addicted to drugs and in need of extra income to support his vice.

He used to hang out at a Manila hotel to meet up with prospective gay clients who were more than happy to pay for his addictions, er, affections, says a spy.

Unstoppable, unforgiven

Seems Showbiz Insider is still furious at Former Ward. SI frowned upon FW's rather public displays of affection with Hunky Boyfriend.

SI demanded, "Why does FW travel alone with HB? Are they married? Are they honeymooners?" Apparently, SI has yet to forgive FW for past slights.

Top of the talk shows

For those who missed last weekend's TV gabfests (And why we are moved, if we are moved):

■ Rachelle Ann Go, asked if she's convinced that Bianca Manalo didn't have a relationship with ex-boyfriend John Prats: "Hanggang ngayon, siyempre 'yun ang gusto kong paniwalaan." (Parang hindi sure.)

■ Kyla on her wedding with Rich Alvarez this December: "Kinakabahan, but at the same time very excited. Masaya ako … Kinakabahan din ako sa gastos!"(Barya lang 'yan kay Papa … Rich nga eh.)

■ Lotlot de Leon, on her eldest daughter Janine Gutierrez entering show biz: "Kahit naman anong pagpipigil ko sa mga intriga na pwedeng dumating sa buhay niya, lahat po 'yan e pagdadaanan niya, 'di ba? She has to find her way through this industry on her own. Kami po talaga nandito lang para gabayan siya."

■ Rufa Mae Quinto, asked about the current state of her love life: "Momol—make out make out lang!" (NG—Naughty Girl!)

■ Ruffa Gutierrez, asked if she's already in a relationship with Brazilian businessman Eduardo Puertas: "Siguro once I'm legally single, saka na talaga ako makakapag-isip ng something for my future … As of now, I just really want to take baby steps. Ayokong magmadali." (No momol, okay?)

■ Solenn Heussaff, asked if "Temptation Island" co-star Tom Rodriguez is courting her: "Close kami kasi artist siya, tapos artist ako … Guwapo siya pero gusto ko mas matanda, mga 30s." (Pihikan.)

■ Aiko Melendez, asked if she's ready to love again: "Hindi. Handa lang ako magpaligaw!" (Me ganu'n!)

■ Claudine Barretto on rumors that she's the cause of delay of her coming series, "Iglot": "Siyempre masama 'yung loob ko, kasi parang 'di pa ako nagsa-start, may ganun na. 'Di ko alam kung bakit sensitive ako ngayon sa ganu'n. Affected talaga ako!"(So bakit kaya hindi maka-start?)

■ Claudine Barretto on dealing with rumors that she and husband Raymart Santiago have broken up: "May times na pinagtatawanan namin, katawatawa 'yung tsismis. Pero may mga times na iniiyak ko." (Hahaha, huhuhu.)

■ PGT2 champ Marcelito Pomoy on being swamped with gay rumors: "Lalaki po talaga ako." (Boses-babae lang pag kumakanta.)

■ Judy Ann Santos on talk that husband Ryan Agoncillo is not sweet or romantic enough: "Meron siyang mga sariling diskarte pagdating sa paglalambing at sa pagpapakitang gilas. 'Yung sa kanya lang 'di masyadong halata!" (Parang totoo.)

■ Vice Ganda on his mom watching him perform at his recent concert "Todong Sample sa Araneta": "Pagsama-samahin mo man 'yung suporta ng lahat ng tao na nagpunta, iba pa rin 'yun naramdaman ko nung nakita ko 'yung nanay ko sa harapan ko." (Aw. 'Yun lang.)

■ Roderick Paulate, asked if there's anything more he wants to achieve: "Basta ipagpatuloy na lang kung ano ang magagawa ko for the industry. At the same time, the Lord has given me another job [as Quezon City councilor]. 'Yun ang gagawin ko, ang tumulong sa tao. Kung ano 'yung maibibigay ko at ano 'yung kaya ko, 'yun ang gagawin ko. Hindi ako mag-rereklamo." (Good answer.) ***(Startalk, E-Live, Showbiz Central, The Buzz, with Allan Policarpio, Contributor)***

DOLLYWOOD

Mark Gil: Andi's ex 'pathetic'

By **DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

As Mark Gil's close friend, I am privileged to see his soft side, which is totally the opposite of his villain roles onscreen. The doting father finally speaks up on his daughter Andi Eigenmann's unexpected pregnancy.

"It doesn't end here for Andi," says Mark. "She still has a long way to go in her career. I am confident that she will always stand strong for who she is. It's not all that bad a situation. As a matter of fact, it's a beautiful thing."

What are his sentiments about the "mysterious" father of Andi's baby-to-be?

"The father will remain unknown. 'Di na mahalaga 'yun. Maraming tatayong ama sa apo ko, lalo na ako. I wouldn't wish my grandchild to [be around] a wimpy father who is still breast-fed by his mother.

"Masakit sa kahit sinong babae na ginulpi at binuntis at tinalikuran, tapos papalabasin pa na si Andi ang maraming boyfriend. Sobra na 'yun. At may DNA test pa na hinihingi. Such a hypocrite and pathetic animal!"

Once and for all, Mark clarifies that Jake Ejercito, Erap's son (with Laarni Enriquez), is not the culprit.

"Jake is a very refined kid," he points out. "We like him a lot. Kawawa naman at nadadamay siya sa issue. Knight in shining armor nga siya ni Andi. He has never left Andi's side in spite of her situation. And I'm grateful for that."

Name that baby

Kristine Hermosa-Sotto has the glow of a happy expectant mother. Any names yet for her coming baby?

"May botohan pang magaganap from both sides of the family," she says, "'Pag five months na ako, I will have an ultrasound. Oyo and I want to know our baby's gender, so we can make all the right preparations."

Isn't she wary that their 3-year-old adopted son Kiel will get jealous of his future sibling?

"He's too young to understand," she says. "When he is old enough and the time is right, we plan to tell him that he's adopted, but it doesn't mean we love him less than our biological kid."

Would he allow Oyo to work with his ex, Nadine Samonte, since they are now both in TV5? "It's Oyo who doesn't want to do that anymore," she explains. "Kahit past is past 'di maiwasang maintriga sila."

Alma's lament

Alma Moreno was in tears when asked about her son Vandolph.

"Nag-aalala ako para sa anak ko. Alam ko mahihirapan siya 'pag nawala ang Daddy niya," she laments. "Siyempre ayaw namin lahat na dumating ang araw na 'yun pero 'di maiiwasan. Nalungkot ako nung naglasing si Vandolph kasi apektado siya masyado sa kalagayan ng Daddy niya. Pero may awa ang Diyos. Dudugtungan pa Niya ang buhay ni Dolphy."

Wedding bells

Diana Meneses and Direk GB Sampedro are madly in love with each other. At the rate their hearts are beating, looks like wedding bells will ring soon. They are both excited about the idea of having a baby when the time is right.

"We will definitely give the Philippines a new batch of beautiful breed," Diana beams. "It will be called Brasilipino."

GB is happy that Diana makes an effort to get close to his kids. "Some women get jealous of my kids," says GB. "But Diana is cool about it, which endears her more to me. One more thing I like in her is that she's not a party girl even if she looks like one. I can't wait to meet her family in Brazil soon."

Who's eloping?

Zsazsa Padilla had a cute afterthought about the question I posed regarding her wedding plans with Tito Dolphy.

"I was traumatized the last time we tried to set up a wedding," she said. "So if ever, our joke is that we'll elope. I think that's what we're bound to do."

Maharlika – Opinyon

EDITORIAL

Playing hardball

More than a quarter of a million Filipino domestic helpers are expected to be displaced with the decision of Saudi Arabia to freeze hiring as a result of a deadlock between the Philippines and the Middle East kingdom over salaries and working conditions. The alarm has been raised by Manila-based recruitment agencies that have criticized the Philippine government for not anticipating the backlash from Riyadh, which is in a similar deadlock with Jakarta over Indonesian domestics.

The deadlock as expected arose from disagreement over the floor wage: Manila demands $400, Riyadh half of that. But even more fundamental are disagreements over worker's rights and conditions. Riyadh objects to a requirement of the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act that the Philippine Embassy certifies that domestic workers' rights in the kingdom are protected. Saudi Arabia is also smarting from the report of the Department of Foreign Affairs that it has a poor record of protecting the labor rights of domestics.

Emmanuel Geslani of the Philippine manpower recruitment industry has criticized Manila for playing hardball with Riyadh and putting in peril the livelihood of tens of thousands of Filipinos. He said that as an immediate result of the hiring freeze, some 30,000 to 50,000 Filipino domestics who come home every year after finishing their contracts would not see their contracts renewed. That's 30,000 to 50,000 immediately added to the statistic on joblessness.

Let it be said outright that the $200 floor wage counter-proposal of Saudi Arabia is shockingly small. Middle-class homes in Metro Manila are already paying the peso-equivalent of that sum—or something close to that—to their own household help. Based alone on export manpower prices and supply-demand dynamics, the counter-proposal would work against Saudi Arabia since even other countries competing with the Philippines for a share of the pie in the kingdom would hardly find the pay scale attractive.

But higher compensation must not be made to sugarcoat poor or abusive working conditions. While some Filipino maids report good to tolerable working conditions in the Middle East, there have also been reports of domestic slavery. Many domestics are reportedly made to work seven days a week with little food or rest. Some are locked up in rooms and not allowed to go out. They are forced to work for years until their contracts expire. Some have complained of physical and sexual abuse.

Reactions from the government to the job freeze indicate that Manila would hold out until it gets a bigger offer. Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration head Carmelita Dimzon said the government would be intensifying its "Balik-Pinay! Balik Hanapbuhay!" project to "transform the domestics into entrepreneurs."

But government programs are notoriously mismanaged and inadequate to cope with the specter of OFW displacement. Worse, they seem like part of an effort to put up a brave front and strengthen the Philippines' bargaining hand. Manila may be playing hardball at the expense of worker's rights. This would be unconscionable. The Philippines cannot compromise workers' rights and conditions in its push for higher compensation. Manila should make it clear to Riyadh that workers' rights are paramount, and they govern the search for just compensation for Filipino domestics.

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The Spratlys are worth dying for

By TED LAGUATAN
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Spratly Islands is an archipelago of 750 small islands, islets, cays, reefs and atolls widely scattered off the coasts off Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam. It has a total land area of only about 4 kilometers where hardly anything grows that's of significant value.

While what is seen of these bits of real estate may appear worthless, beneath the surrounding seas are vast deposits of gold—black gold—oil. Natural gas is also present in huge quantities as evidenced by the Malampaya example.

The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei are claiming those portions of the Spratlys—which are within what is referred to by the 1982 United Nations Convention Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) as their Exclusive Economic Zone—an area within a 200 mile radius from a country's baseline.

While China is a signatory to this 1982 agreement among nations, its energy needs are recklessly driving the dragon into seeking to grab oil and natural gas that belong to other countries—the Philippines included.

Seventy percent of China's present oil needs is imported, mainly from Russia and the rest from other sources. The reality of being hostage to the demands of suppliers or the risk of disruption of continuous supply threatens China's astounding growth as an economic powerhouse.

Industries and manufacturers throughout the world have found it more advantageous and practical to farm out their production needs to China. Not only does this result in lower production costs, absence of labor problems and no management issues—it enables companies to focus on marketing operations which results in more profits.

The Chinese deserve much credit for coming out with quality products that sell cheaper. Great for consumers everywhere. The new prosperity is also good for the Chinese people—notwithstanding that much of the new wealth has yet to trickle down to the masses—which hopefully will happen over time.

The Chinese people deserve a better life after years of poverty and suffering from the excesses of the cultural revolution.

China's owes much of its booming economy to former Premier Deng Xiaoping who ditched rigid closed communist policies in favor of free market reforms.

The future looks very bright for the Chinese people. The planet's fastest growing economy has now surpassed Japan as the second largest economy in the world. As more companies look to farming out their production needs to China and Chinese companies expand their operations—expectedly its need for oil and energy resources will continue to increase.

However, this need does not justify grabbing the oil and natural resources belonging to smaller countries in the region and using brute force—which China appears ready to do. If China proceeds with its gorilla tactics, it will be viewed as a bully and as a thief by the global community. It's government will lose the respect of other nations, cause unrest and instability in the region and foment much continued resentment among the victim nations.

These negatives for China will have serious consequences including the threat of war against several countries—including even possibly against the United States whose interest is stability in the region. Also, if China is viewed as untrustworthy and a bully, other countries might ally themselves into a united front against Chinese abuse of power and for self defense.

China is a goliath with a population of around 1.3 billion people. It has the world's largest military force with 2.3 million soldiers. It also has nuclear capabilities, a formidable navy and air force. It can easily carry out a successful grab of the oil and natural gas resources of Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and other countries.

These countries do not have the military capabilities to face up to China. In 1988, a contingent of Vietnamese sailors who tore down Chinese flags and buoy markers in part of the Spratlys which were within Vietnam's Exclusive Economic Zone—were slaughtered by Chinese gunboats using 37 mm cannons. Video records of this episode may be seen in You Tube. The Vietnamese were not fighting when deadly firepower was used on them. Some 66 Vietnamese sailors were killed.

For the Philippines, why are the Spratlys worth dying for?

Some guesstimate the vast deposits of oil and natural gas found in the Spratlys areas within Philippine territory as defined by UNCLOS to be as large as those of Kuwaiti or Nigeria or even that of Saudi Arabia.

China's official news agency Xinhua reported a few weeks ago that around 30 billion dollars will be invested in building modern oil drill platforms. An ultra advanced platform costing almost a billion dollars has just been completed and ready for transport to the drilling site this July. It is suspected that this site is in Philippine UNCLOS territory as the Philippines' previous president allowed the Chinese to freely explore these waters for oil searches during her term.

Xinhua confirms that the target is to drill in 800 locations and that the projected production is equivalent to 50 billion dollars annually.

If a big part of such wealth goes to it's rightful owners, the Filipino people—mass poverty can be eliminated. New industries and enterprises will proliferate from the infusion of so much national capital providing well paying jobs for our people. No longer will we be a nation of slaves where millions of our people have to work in lonely far away foreign lands separated from their families.

The superior education, nutrition, health care and housing these discovered riches will provide to millions of Filipino children will enable them to flower to their fullest potential.

China's intrusion into Philippine territory to take this promise of a brighter future from the Filipino people should be resisted with everything that we can muster—with blood if necessary. China's use of force to take away our oil for free must be condemned in no uncertain terms and brought to the attention of the world.

The Philippines' claim is based on existing law agreed upon even by China and the other countries in the region—the UNCLOS. The target sites for oil well drillings are also roughly about 100 miles more or less from Philippine shores whereas these are over a thousand miles from Chinese shores.

China's claim is based on an absurdity. Supposedly, an ancient map from the Han Dynasty about 2000 years old—defined the limits of the Chinese kingdom which includes all of the South China Sea (now renamed by the Philippines as West Philippine Sea) and surrounding lands. This self proclaimed right to distant other country owned territories has neither rhyme nor reason—legally speaking.

Assuming such a genuine map existed, that claim is about as valid as the Italian government claiming ownership of most of Europe, parts of Africa and parts of Asia because these were all part of the Roman empire. The Roman empire ceased to exist hundreds of years ago—and so did the Han dynasty. Country boundaries keep changing over time because of various factors that I need not go into.

We must also be aware that China is not limiting it's options to using force in seeking to acquire our energy resources. We should face up to the gruesome reality that many of our leaders and politicians are thieves and are so corrupt and willing to give all kinds of concessions to China (as well as to other private investors) for personal gain.

In 2004, then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signed a tripartite agreement with China and Vietnam known as the Joint Marine Seismic Undertaking (JMSU) involving seismic exploration of 142,866 square kilometers west of Palawan. More specifically, it is an agreement between the Philippine National Oil—Exploration Corporation (PNOC-EC), China National Oil Offshore Corporation (CNOOC) and Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation (PetroVietnam).

The problem with this agreement is that all of the area to be explored is within the Philippines' 200 mile Exclusive Economic Zone under UNCLOS including areas not even claimed by China or Vietnam. It hardly makes sense to expose one's wealth to countries who may be aiming to get it without respecting the Philippines' ownership rights. It's like showing the fox where the chickens are hidden. It does not include explorations outside Philippine waters.

Under this JMSU agreement, Chinese vessels would conduct the exploration, Vietnam would process the data gathered and the Philippines' PNOC would interpret the results. The explorations were supposed to end in January 2008 but there is no confirmation that it did.

What Barry Wain confirms about the JMSU is that "it was largely a sellout on the part of the Philippines." Wain is a respected Singapore based researcher for the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. In an article he wrote for the widely read Hong Kong journal *Far Eastern Economic Review*, he further added: "The Philippines has made breathtaking concessions in agreeing to the areas of study including parts of it's continental shelf not even claimed by China and Vietnam."

It appears from some accounts that Vietnam was hesitant to join the agreement but may have been included later on after Arroyo gave a 100 percent OK to China's exploration—probably to make the China-Philippine deal look more palatable and legitimate.

Arroyo critics suspect she entered into secret deals with the Chinese in return for 2 billion dollars in loans for Philippine projects including the ZTE Broadband deal and others in which she and her husband are alleged to have received millions in equivalent U.S. dollars of kickback. This would be a clear cut case of treason if such were the case.

The Malampaya Natural Gas project is also another blatant example of how our leaders sell out our precious natural resources. The share of the Philippines for the profits is only 10 percent whereas Chevron and Shell will split the rest of the 90 percent. There is not even an agreement for a transfer of technology later. Any fool can see that this is hardly a fair agreement.

The same anomalies and distortions have happened in providing mining rights to foreigners and local investors.

Perhaps in a very real way, President Benigno Aquino III may be a real blessing to the country. He may have some weak points but I strongly believe that he is not greedy, dishonest or corrupt—unless proven otherwise. I do not think he will betray the legacy of his martyred father and sincere mother who tried her best to serve the people.

If he is able to successfully defend the vast oil and natural gas resources of the country against military forces from the outside and from the corrupt elements within—and use this tremendous wealth to drastically improve the lives of so many of our people—he might become truly a really great President.

Ted Laguatan is a U.S.-based lawyer. He is one of only 29 lawyers officially certified as an expert specialist continuously for more than 20 years. He also does accident injuries, wrongful death, and complex litigation.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari

PARK CLEANUP
Executives and employees of Tan Holdings take a break from cleaning and painting the Susupe Regional Beach Park grounds on June 24.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Tan Holdings employees clean up the Susupe Regional Beach Park in preparation for the launch of the children's playground on June 24.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

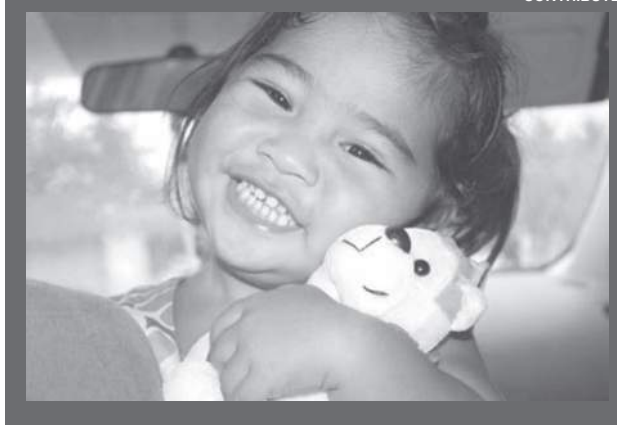
Tan Holdings executives and employees paint and pick up litter at the Susupe Regional Beach Park in preparation for the launch of the children's playground on June 24.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Male members of the youth organization Teen Talk try out the monkey bars at the children's playground of the Susupe Beach Regional Park.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday to the one and only amazing Christopher "Charisma" Cabrera, who is celebrating his birthday today, July 9! Have a *charising* one. Love and miss you! Greetings come from Juavababyy!
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Kenneth Karlo Litulumar Selbart! May you have many more birthdays to come! God bless you! Greetings come from *nino* and *nina* StanZen and kids.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Advanced happy birthday to Akieko Jade "KiKi Girl," who will be in her terrifical twos on July 11. Hope you enjoy the ice cream and goodies on your day. Love, your Mommy and your many *ninas* and *ninos*.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Aiden Sengk, who turned 3 years old yesterday, July 8! Hope you had a great safari with Diego, Dora, and the gang. Many birthdays to come, baby. Love you always and forever. From: Mom, Dad, brother, sister, the whole family, and most especially from your big sister Valyn!
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NEW CHRISTIAN

Happy Christening to Kimani Jarie C. Santos! May God bless you and we love you! Greetings come from Grandpa and Grandma StanZen Santos and kids.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

In this photo taken June 27, 2011, Kevin McDowell sits with triathlon teammates Nolan Dickson, left, and Kelly Whitley as McDowell gets a chemotherapy treatment in Geneva, Ill.

AP

Runner puts dreams on hold for those of ill friend

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP NATIONAL WRITER

AURORA, Ill. (AP)—Lukas Verzbicas sat in silence, trying to absorb the news that Kevin McDowell, his friend and longtime triathlon teammate, had been diagnosed with cancer.

Finally, Verzbicas' stepfather spoke. Lukas had a choice to make. He could continue to focus on the running career that has shown such promise he was being hailed as the next great American distance runner even before he broke the 4-minute mile, something only four other U.S. high schoolers have ever done.

Or he could put his own dreams and plans on hold for those of his friend, returning to triathlon for one last summer in hopes of claiming the junior world title that Kevin would have been favored to win.

"I made the decision right away," Verzbicas said. "I feel like Kevin would have definitely won that medal, and it's really not fair what happened. If I could bring it to him, I have to do it."

■ ■ ■

Triathlon is McDowell's passion, has been since he took up the sport seven years ago. The bronze medalist at last year's junior world championships, he graduated high school early so he could train full-time. At an International Triathlon Union sprint event in Clermont, Fla., in March, he finished 10th, the fourth-fastest American.

He was a decade younger than many of the other top racers.

"I was on a high, excited about how the race went," said McDowell, who turns 19 on Aug. 1.

When he returned home, however, his mother noticed a lump on his neck. McDowell didn't think much of it, just as he hadn't thought much about how tired he'd been lately, how drained he'd been after training. He had felt great during the race, and figured any fatigue was simply due to the intense workouts he'd been doing to get ready for the season.

AP

In a photo from AP video taken June 21, 2011, Kevin McDowell rests in the background after biking, as teammate Lukas Verzbicas runs past in Aurora, Ill.

But his mother, a nurse, told him to go have it checked out. Doctors said it was nothing, a torn muscle, perhaps. Just in case, though, they did an ultrasound and told McDowell to get an MRI.

The next day, the teenager learned he had Hodgkin's lymphoma, a form of blood cancer. That lump in his neck was a tumor, and he had another in his chest.

The cancer was caught early, Stage 2, and his prognosis was—and is—good. But McDowell would need five months of chemotherapy. His season, barely started, was over. So, too, his dream of winning the junior title at the world championships, Sept. 10-11 in Beijing.

"It's just a little bump in the road," McDowell said. "At times it doesn't feel like a bump right now, sometimes it feels like going up a mountain. But in the end, I'll be able to look back and say, 'All right, this was just a little bump.'"

After getting the news, McDowell went up to his bedroom, wanting to be alone. But the enormity of what he was facing—and what he was losing—overwhelmed him, and he knew of only one place where he would find comfort.

"He got the news at 1. At 5 o'clock, he shows up for practice," said Keith Dickson, director of the Multisport Madness Triathlon Team, McDowell and Verzbicas' club team. "He told his team, 'Guys, I've got cancer. So let's go run.' So he goes and leads his team on a 5-mile run. Nobody was saying anything, they're just running behind Kevin."

While the news stunned all of McDowell's teammates, Verzbicas took it particularly hard. He and McDowell have trained side-by-side the past five years, one driving the other every bit as hard as he drove himself. As naturally gifted as they are—McDowell is the stronger swimmer, Verzbicas the better runner of course and they're about even on the bike—it's taken the other to make each the athlete he is.

"You can't have a bad day, really, unless you're both having a bad day," Verzbicas said.

The two have swapped places atop the podium since the very first time they raced. (Verzbicas won that time, though he admits he later discovered that he'd skipped a full loop on the course.) Verzbicas was the junior U.S. triathlon champ in 2008, McDowell in 2009. They finished 3-4 at last year's junior worlds, McDowell completing the sprint-distance course (a 750-meter swim, 19.03-kilometer bike ride and 5-kilometer run) in 52 minutes, 22 seconds, with Verzbicas a mere 14 seconds behind after being assessed a 15-second penalty.

But when asked if the two are rivals, Verzbicas recoils. Theirs is an individual sport, and each wants to win. But they take their role as teammates seriously, giving each other encouragement and counsel.

It's a complex concept, this idea of friendly foes, one that's hard to fully appreciate for anyone who hasn't watched the teens push and pull each other along.

"I never thought of it as a rivalry," Verzbicas said. "A lot of people think that. I really don't feel like it's that way. I think we're more teammates. ... Team brothers."

That's what made Verzbicas' choice so easy.

The 18-year-old had given up triathlon last October to concentrate on distance running, and already has an impressive collection of records. He won his second straight title at the Foot Locker Cross Country Championships in December, only the third boy to win consecutive races in the event's 32-year history. He single-handedly won the team title at the New Balance Indoor Nationals in March, winning the mile, two mile and 5,000 meters.

On June 4, he shattered the high school two-mile record by almost five seconds at the Prefontaine Classic. A week later, he ran the mile in 3:59.71 at the Adidas Grand Prix, only the fifth U.S. high schooler—and first in a decade—to break the 4-minute barrier. He has a scholarship to Oregon, a powerhouse in collegiate running.

But McDowell needed Verzbicas, now more than he ever has.

"When he said what he was going to do, I was like, 'Wow.' It's a really nice gesture," McDowell said, his face conveying the awe and gratitude that words can't adequately describe. "To come back, it's a harder path and it's not what he had planned. It meant a lot. ... Now, in a way, I can still be a part of it and be a part of this whole process. So it helped a lot. It's something to look forward to, in a different way."

McDowell has chemotherapy every other Monday, and is often accompanied by one of his teammates. The two-hour treatments sap his energy for the next three or four days, but by Friday or Saturday he is back at practice, trying to push Verzbicas as he always has.

The workouts make him feel better physically and will make his return to competition easier. But it's the camaraderie with his teammates that helps most, allowing him to feel as if his "old" life is not that far away.

"Right after I was diagnosed, I met this girl who was fighting breast cancer," McDowell said. "She said, 'Keep living your life, don't curl up in a ball. Try and stay normal. Even if sometimes you don't feel good, still go out, go do something. Try to stay as normal as possible and don't curl up away from everything and feel sorry and be like, Why? Why?' Because it's not going to help."

Watching him hang on Verzbicas' back wheel during bike training, it's easy to forget McDowell is sick. He's lost 10 pounds, but triathletes are lean and sinewy by nature. He shaved his head when his hair began to fall out, but lots of elite swimmers and bikers go bald in hopes of reducing resistance and saving a second or two.

The only obvious sign McDowell has cancer is the chemotherapy port, a walnut-sized lump beneath the skin on the right side of his chest that's visible when he's in the pool.

"You wouldn't really believe he has cancer—except for the bald head, really. He's still training and doing everything with us," Verzbicas said. "It makes me look at what I have to do. He reminds me that I cannot give up. I'm not only doing this for myself, I'm doing it for others, as well."

Despite his previous success in triathlon, this is no easy undertaking for Verzbicas. He had been devoting his entire focus to one sport, and now he's had to switch to another. And not just any other sport, but one that crams three very different disciplines into one.

Triathlon demands an athleticism and versatility like few other sports, and getting back into it requires more than simply hopping back on the bike or into the pool.

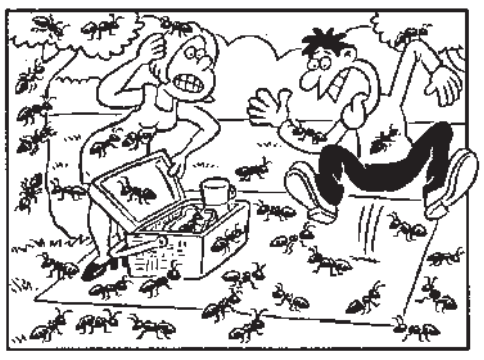
"It's really tough to keep going," Verzbicas acknowledged. "But in the end, I just look at the big picture. I'll look back if I quit like, 'What have I done?' But if I complete it, then it's a big deal. So I've got to get through it."

He resumed triathlon training in March, put it aside in May to get ready for his June track meets, and then picked it back up after the Adidas meet. His first triathlon is July 10 in Edmonton, Alberta, followed by the national championships Aug. 7 in San Diego. Then it is off to Beijing in September for one last race; he is already qualified by virtue of his finish at last year's worlds.

Verzbicas and McDowell will go their separate ways after worlds, their individual sports taking them in different directions once again. Verzbicas will head to Oregon and resume his running career. McDowell plans to move to the new elite triathlon academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., following his final chemotherapy session on Aug. 22.

No matter where they are, though, they will always have a bond. And, Verzbicas hopes, a gold medal that will be both a token of what true friendship is, and a reminder that one would not be a champion without the other.

"Anything can happen, that's true. I'm not guaranteed a win," Verzbicas said. "Everyone wants to win just as much, if not more, than I do. But I think I have an advantage, because I'm doing it for someone else."



UNINVITED GUESTS! See if you can correctly count the number of party crashers at the above picnic. Your time limit is 30 seconds.

Answer: We counted 35. Did you get the same?

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

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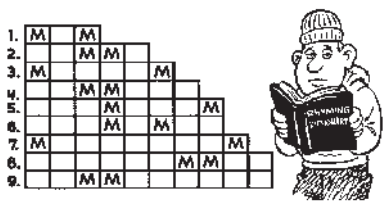
M-AND-M WORDS!



You'll be hip if you can hop onto the words in our quiz. To the left is room for nine words, each of which contains two M's. We give you the M's plus plenty of hints to help you fill in the missing letters.

1. How you keep a secret.
2. A burglar's tool.
3. An educational building.
4. A good place to nap.
5. A deception or swindle.
6. One who steers a ship.
7. A large, stately tomb.
8. A board game.
9. A large, deadly fish.

Illustrated by David Coulson

Answers: 1. Mum. 2. Jimmy. 3. Museum. 4. Hammock. 5. Flimflam. 6. Helmsman. 7. Mausoleum. 8. Backgammon. 9. Hammerhead (shark).

IT'S SINK OR SWIM with this AlphaMath puzzle. You must replace the letters on the boat with the digits 0 through 9 so that you will have a correct addition problem. Try to get the highest possible total.

Our Answer B=5, O=7, A=3, T=0, L=4, E=1, K=2, D=9, U=8, N=6, (6730 + 4132 = 9862.)

FIND THE SEVEN WORDS PUZZLE! In the word square at the right, we've removed six of the letters to spell out the word "WEASEL." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four three-letter words across and three four-letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds.

W		A	
E		R	A
A		E	
S	P		T
L			

Answers: (Across) Was, era, eel, pat. (Down) Weep, area, salt.

Don't remake pets into children

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I'm writing in regards to your recent column asking whether pets are more than just part of the family, and instead like another child. Some of your readers responded yes to that question.

Like most pet owners, I have been very attached to our pets. However, I find the "pets as children" idea rather false as well as disrespectful to the animal. Animals should be accepted for what they are, not remade into children. Most dogs are intelligent, adult animals, and it is insulting to treat them like silly little children.

Also, most pets are spayed or neutered, and we would never do that to children or any other family members. We could use procedures that would prevent pregnancy, without eliminating sexual behavior, but in animals that behavior tends to be a nuisance.

Pets can be a real blessing, and they should be respected.—Barbara B., via email

DEAR BARBARA: Those are very good points, and thank you for bringing them up! One of the most important things we can learn from caring for pets is compassion and respect for all animals, both tame and wild.

Dogs and cats also require specific care, including, as Barbara points out, spaying or neutering to prevent unwanted litters and reduce the occurrence of abandoned or abused animals. Vaccines and licenses also are typically required by law. Your child doesn't have to wear visible tags, but your dog (and often your cat) does.

Does this mean that owners somehow love their pets less? I think not—most are devoted to their pet and its welfare and happiness. That's something to be valued.

■ ■ ■

Send your question or comment to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was American publisher and author William Feather who made the following sage observation: "The petty economies of the rich are just as amazing as the silly extravagances of the poor."

■ The parents of one first-grade student at Hampton Day School in Bridgehampton, N.Y., once sued the school for not assigning homework to their 6-year-old son. In a victory for students everywhere, the parents lost.

■ You probably know that the Chinese script is made up of ideograms: pictures that represent objects or ideas. Often, words are formed by pairing simple symbols to convey a more complex idea. For instance, the symbol for "eye" combined with the symbol for "water" creates the word "teardrop." Pair "mouth" with "bird" and you get song. And, interestingly, pairing two women together makes the symbol for "quarrel," and three means "gossip."

■ Census data show that women in the South tend to live longer than their counterparts in northern states.

■ You may be surprised to learn that President Abraham Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, was on the scene of three presidential assassinations. The first time was in 1865, when he was with his father after he was shot at Ford's Theatre. In 1881, Lincoln, who was then serving as Secretary of War, arrived at Union Station shortly after President James A. Garfield had been shot. Finally, in 1901, he was at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y., when President William McKinley was assassinated.

■ If you're like the average American man, over the course of 10 years you'll shave off a full pound of whiskers.

■ The vast nation of China is home to half of all the world's domesticated pigs.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me."—Noel Coward

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MAGIC MAZE ● KING WORDS

E	B	N	K	I	G	D	B	Z	S	X	V	S	Q	O
M	U	G	K	I	Y	G	E	G	R	C	A	Y	G	W
U	C	S	N	Q	P	L	N	N	E	L	E	J	N	H
F	K	J	E	I	C	I	G	A	H	Y	S	X	I	V
G	I	O	U	S	K	Q	N	N	S	P	E	N	K	M
K	N	K	J	I	S	I	N	K	I	N	G	D	O	M
H	G	I	V	F	P	E	H	C	F	K	N	B	M	Z
Y	H	N	K	G	D	R	I	B	G	N	I	K	S	A
X	A	G	N	A	N	A	M	G	N	I	K	R	O	W
V	M	I	U	T	B	R	Q	P	I	O	E	M	T	L
K	K	N	O	T	S	G	N	I	K	I	P	H	G	S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Asking	Joking	Kingpin	Smoking
Baking	Kingbird	Kingston	Strikingly
Buckingham	Kingdom	Pekingese	Workingman
Hiking	Kingfisher	Sinking	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	×		+		24
×		−		÷	
	−		×		15
−		×		+	
	−		×		28
10		16		10	

1 3 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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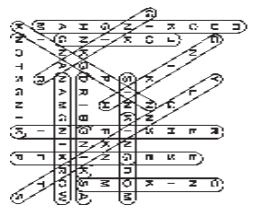
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

3	×	5	+	9	24
−		−		÷	
6	−	1	×	3	15
×		+		−	
8	−	4	×	7	28
10		16		10	

Ice decanter makes summer party magical

Donna's Day
Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Planning a summer party on a budget? Fill an easy-to-freeze ice decanter with fresh lemonade for your next neighborhood party and get ready for the ooh's and ah's when friends see the icy wonder. It's a frozen party asset that won't break the bank. Easy, fun, magical and guaranteed to be cold!

Here's how to create an ice decanter:

You'll need:

■ 1 clean, empty half-gallon standard cardboard milk, orange juice or lemonade carton with top opened wide.

■ 1 empty and clean liter-size glass sparkling water or wine bottle with top labels removed

■ Fresh fruits such as a lemon, orange, lime and strawberries.

■ Fresh dill or mint

■ Masking tape

■ Funnel

Here's the fun:

1. Cut off the top portion of the juice carton if you wish, or keep it in place with the top portion left opened wide. (If you don't cut it, you could fill it near the top with water so that ice reaches to the bottle's neck.) Set the bottle in the center of the carton, and fill it a quarter full with water.

2. Let kids tuck sprigs of dill or mint and several thick lemon, orange or lime slices in the water around the bottle. Set tape over the top of the bottle and attach to outer sides of the carton to keep bottle in place in the center of carton. Freeze.

3. Remove the carton from the freezer, fill with more water, fruit slices and herbs until the water reaches close to the top of the carton. Re-freeze.

4. To use, tear off the carton with your kids to reveal the surprise creation. You may need to run warm water around the carton, or an adult may cut

the length of the carton with a knife to release it easily.

5. Set a funnel on the mouth of the bottle and fill it with lemonade or your preferred beverage. Place the filled ice decanter on a rimmed plate lined with a thin towel. Wrap and tie a cloth napkin around the lower portion of the ice block for easy handling.

Extra idea: Make a floral ice sculpture. Fill the carton with water and add short-stemmed flowers such as roses and freeze. The flowers will be suspended in the ice encasing the bottle.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Malfoy actors talk good, evil as Potter saga ends

LONDON (AP)—So this is the face of evil: Ice-blue eyes, an imperious brow, the sculpted features of Lucius Malfoy, the Muggle-hating wizard supremacist and implacable foe of Harry Potter.

As Malfoy, 48-year-old actor Jason Isaacs has plumbed his character's dark heart and chilled millions of moviegoers since he appeared in "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" in 2002. So it comes as a surprise—it shouldn't but it does—to hear the British performer renounce evil.

There is, he says, no such thing. Even arch-villain Lord Voldemort is not so much wicked as misguided.

"No one is ever bad," said the disconcertingly genial Isaacs, in jeans and a casual shirt looking nothing like the supercilious Lucius. "Voldemort sees the way the world ought to be, in his own eyes, and is trying to make it that way."

Isaacs returns for a sixth and final time as the black-clad, blonde-haired warlock in "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2," the last film in the magical saga, which premieres Thursday in London and opens around the world next week.

The film reunites Isaacs with Helen McCrory, 42, as his wife Narcissa Malfoy and 23-year-old Tom Felton as their son Draco, Harry's classmate and bitter rival at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

The Malfoys embody the dark side of J.K. Rowling's magical world. Staunch allies of Voldemort, they uphold what they see as the purity of wizard ways and wizard blood against the influence of ordinary humans, or Muggles.

Isaacs said Lucius speaks "the language of separation, the language of racism, the language of eugenics."

"You don't need to look very far in Europe nowadays to see politicians nowadays standing on those platforms and seemingly reasonably gathering an awful lot of followers and votes," he said. "And you don't need to go too far in America, either."

Such real-life complexities have helped make Rowling's books worldwide best-sellers, with 450 million copies sold—and enriched the experience of the movies' cast, which includes a roster of distinguished British actors.

"All her characters are rounded," Isaacs said. "They all have destinies they are struggling with or bonds that they're breaking or internal challenges. There's no character in Potter which is off the shelf. These are delicious characters to play."

Isaacs and McCrory both have a history of playing the bad guy. Isaacs' roll call of villains ranges from Captain Hook in "Peter Pan" to Col. Tavington, the nasty redcoat who pursues Mel Gibson in Revolutionary War drama "The Patriot."

McCrory is an accomplished classical actress whose stage roles have included a chilling Lady Macbeth. Less villainously, she played Cherie Blair, wife of the British prime minister, in "The Queen" and "The Special Relationship."

"Normally it's more interesting to play the bad guy because it's usually better written," said McCrory, who will be appearing soon in Martin Scorsese's film "Hugo Cabret." "Good is seen in a lot of drama today as a very, very dull thing."

AP

Harry Potter cast members Jason Isaacs and Helen McCrory who portray Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy pose during an interview with The Associated Press in London, Tuesday, July 5, 2011.

She says Rowling's stories are rare in that "goodness is seen with the same complexity as badness."

"She has written her main protagonist as somebody who has the immensely difficult task of being good in this world—which is for many young people now, very difficult," McCrory said. "It's a wonderful archetype to show to people, that you have to have intelligence and bravery and complexity and individualism in order to be good."

Rowling's seven Potter books—and the eight films adapted from them—set orphaned Harry on a collision course with Voldemort, the wicked warlock who killed Harry's parents and seeks to control the wizarding world.

"Deathly Hallows: Part 2" brings the battle to a head, as the massed forces of Voldemort and his Death Eaters confront the plucky defenders of Hogwarts, and Harry faces his nemesis in a showdown.

It is an epic finale—as well as the first of the movie series released in 3D—and fans' expectations are high. Many moviegoers are preparing to shed a tear.

For the actors, it's a farewell to a well-loved pillar of Britain's film industry.

The films made stars of young leads Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint, who were not yet teenagers when the series began in 2001.

For a decade, they've also given work to the cream of British acting talent. "Deathly Hallows" director David Yates has called it "the world's best cast on the world's best story."

The Potter roster includes Ralph Fiennes as Voldemort, Alan Rickman as ambiguous teacher Severus Snape, Gary Oldman as Harry's mentor Sirius Black, Michael Gambon as headmaster Albus Dumbledore, Maggie Smith as Professor Minvera McGonagal, Helena Bonham Carter as bad witch Bellatrix Lestrange and Julie Walters as matriarch Molly Weasley. All make a final appearance in "Deathly Hallows: Part 2."

By all accounts the months-long shoots were happy, collegial affairs.

"We were rained off for weeks," Isaacs said. "We sat huddling round heaters on canvas chairs drinking badly overcooked tea listening to Julie Walters tell stories about raising pigs. Who wouldn't pay for that opportunity?"

Isaacs said he realized during filming of "Deathly Hallows'" final confrontation—when practically the entire cast stands in rival armies as Fiennes' Voldemort lays siege to Hogwarts—that the experience was unlikely to be repeated.

"We were all there for weeks and weeks and weeks, watching Ralph," he said. "I remember looking out and thinking, this is probably the most highly qualified bunch of film extras there has ever been in film history.

"There's dames and knights of the realm and people I would queue round the block in the rain to see on stage—all of us standing around with literally nothing to do."

Isaacs, recently seen as bruised-but-tender private eye Jackson Brodie in the BBC crime series "Case Histories," is about to move to Los Angeles to star in "Awake," a new NBC series about a detective caught between parallel realities.

Still, he is sorry to let Lucius Malfoy go.

"Most films that I've ever been on—most television programs, most plays even—there's an undercurrent of fear: 'We're all going to lose our money, we're going to destroy our careers, no one's going to buy a ticket, no one's going to see this thing,'" he explained.

"On 'Harry Potter' the opposite was true: We were buoyed up on this tide of confidence, this sense that the whole world loved what we were doing and couldn't wait to see what we were doing next."

The Potter series was a unique time in moviemaking, he concluded.

"I got to be part of this enterprise that gave so much pleasure all over the world," he said. "I'll miss that."

Fans gather for Harry Potter premiere in London

LONDON (AP)—Harry Potter's saga is ending, but his magic spell remains.

Thousands of fans from around the world massed in London Thursday for the premiere of the final film in the magical adventure series.

They thronged Trafalgar Square, where the stars walked a rain-sodden red carpet, and nearby Leicester Square, where the movie was being shown in a plush movie theater, braving the inevitable London rain with umbrellas, waterproofs and good cheer.

Sun broke out as cast members—including leads Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint—and Harry's creator J.K. Rowling began arriving on the red carpet, signing autographs and chatting with fans.

Speaking from a stage erected in Trafalgar Square, 21-year-old Radcliffe, who has played the boy wizard since he was 11, told fans that Harry's story would never end.

"Each and every person, not just here in this square but around the world who have watched these films for the last 10 years, they will always carry the films with them for the rest of their lives," he said. Rowling wiped away tears as she thanked the actors for "the amazing things they did for my favorite characters."

The fans, who chanted "thank you" as Rowling and the cast took the stage, came from around the world. Many had camped out overnight, some for days. Most were young adults who grew up with the boy wizard and his adventures, and could not pass up the chance to say goodbye.

"It's our childhood—we made friends because of Harry Potter," said Luis Guilherme, a 22-year-old graduate student from Sao Paolo, Brazil. "I don't know how my life would be without it. I would be less imaginative, for sure, and less adventurous. I would never be here in London.

"We'd never forgive ourselves if we didn't come, one last time."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" depicts Harry's final confrontation with the forces of evil Lord Voldemort—an epic showdown rendered, for the first time in the series, in 3D.

The eighth and last film in the made-in-Britain franchise was getting a lavish premiere, with huge screens and banners in Trafalgar Square and a nearby street transformed into the magical shopping thoroughfare Diagon Alley.

No one, however, could magic away the London rain.

"Every single time it's like this," said Zoey Lewis, 18. "Some people say the Death Eaters (Voldemort's followers) make it rain."

Lewis, a student from Brentwood, east of London, sheltered under an umbrella behind a handmade "We Love Helena" banner—her tribute to Helena Bonham Carter, who plays bad witch Bellatrix Lestrange in the movies.

"I love Harry Potter," she said. "It's been such a big part of my life. I don't know what I'll do without it."

The feeling is shared by the film's stars, who like many of their fans grew up with the series.

Grint said Wednesday he felt "a little bit lost" without the movies in his life. Watson said she'd miss playing plucky Hermione Granger, who was "like a sister."

Jason Isaacs, who plays villainous wizard Lucius Malfoy, said he was not surprised by the huge crowd in the square.

"The books are all about death and loss and mortality, so they are very emotional and they make people emotional," he said. "You find this wherever you go in the world. Harry Potter just seems to light up the world."

The premiere marks the end of an era that began when the then-unknown Rowling published "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" in 1997. The book blossomed from well-reviewed children's tale to global phenomenon, launching a seven-book series that has sold 450 million copies around the world.

The last Harry Potter book appeared four years ago, and Rowling has said she does not plan more stories about the boy wizard. But she gave hope to fans awaiting new writing from her.

She told the BBC that she hadn't wanted to publish a new book until the last movie was released.

"I will publish again, and this is in some sense for me a beginning as well as an end," Rowling said.

The final film also ends a movie institution that has employed dozens of British actors and hundreds of crew members and technicians since the first film came out in 2001.

"It's created such an infrastructure and such an industry, and it will be sorely missed," "Deathly Hallows" director David Yates said Wednesday. "It's been a mini-industry employing hundreds and thousands of people."

He said he didn't expect to see its like again.

"I think lightning doesn't strike twice," Yates said.

Memoir details Jaycee Dugard's long kidnap ordeal

NEW YORK (AP)—In an often wrenching memoir, Jaycee Dugard recounts in unsparing detail the rapes, isolation and heartbreak she endured during 18 years as a kidnap victim twice impregnated by her captor.

Titled "A Stolen Life," the memoir is officially scheduled to go on sale next week. The Associated Press purchased a copy Thursday.

Dugard, now 31, was kidnapped from South Lake Tahoe, Calif., in 1991, when she was 11, then sexually abused and held captive for 18 years by Phillip and Nancy Garrido. She gave birth to two daughters by Phillip Garrido. The couple pleaded guilty and received lengthy prison sentences earlier this year: 431 years to life for Phillip Garrido and 36 years to life for his wife.

Dugard writes that she decided to publish the memoir for two reasons: to provide a precise account of the ordeals inflicted on her by the Garridos, and in hopes that her story might be of help to people facing difficult situations of their own. She said her goal was to inspire people to speak out when they see something amiss around them, that they "can endure tough situations and survive," she writes.

She describes how she was abducted as she walked up a hill toward her school bus stop in June 1991—paralyzed by a stun gun wielded by a man who then bundled her into his car and covered her with a blanket. Before long, she was forced to shower naked with Garrido and placed in handcuffs in a locked room.

She writes of how little she knew about sex when Garrido began raping her, about a week after the abduction. The word "rape" was not even in her vocabulary. But even if she had been worldly, she writes, no amount of preparation could have helped her understand "why another human being would do what he did."

AP

In this July 1, 2011 photo released by ABC, ABC News' Diane Sawyer, left, speaks with Jaycee Dugard in Ojai, Calif., during her first interview since being kidnapped near her California home in 1991, when she was 11.

The rapes continued on a frequent basis—with Garrido often getting high on drugs before indulging in his fantasies, some of which he videotaped.

Yet Dugard writes that she found herself starting to feel deeply dependent on Garrido, who initially was her only human contact. He told her she should be amenable to having sex with him because it meant he wouldn't have to molest anyone else. She writes that she had no choice. She also talked about her dependency on Garrido in her grand jury testimony.

Eventually, Dugard says in her grand jury testimony and in the book, that he gives her a kitten, which she names Tigger. He later takes the cat away because he doesn't like the smell. Later, Garrido introduces Dugard to his wife, Nancy. Dugard recalls being glad to have another human contact, yet is ambivalent about the relationship. For her 12th birthday, Dugard gets a Barbie doll from Nancy.

In the spring of 1994, Dugard realizes she's pregnant. She recalls being stunned, yet—as she feels the baby moving inside her—vows that she will never give the child away. She recounts the painful delivery in her bedroom, giving birth to a baby girl on Aug. 18, 1994.

She is 14, she writes, and is "very, very scared."

The rapes subsided after the girl's birth, but still occurred sometimes when Garrido took drugs, Dugard writes, and she became pregnant again. The second daughter was born on Nov. 13, 1997.

In her grand jury testimony and in the book, she says that one of the reasons she stayed with Garrido, rather than trying to escape, was because she wanted to be sure her two daughters were safe with her. She was afraid of the "outside world," she writes.

Eventually, Garrido allowed Dugard and the two little girls to leave his compound. Dugard was given a new first name, Allissa, to use in the earshot of other people.

The Garridos' secret unraveled in 2009. They were arrested a day after Phillip Garrido had brought his entire family to a meeting with his parole officer, and had identified Dugard and her daughters as his nieces.

When a female officer asked Dugard for her name, she was too nervous and shaken to say it aloud, instead writing on a piece of paper, "JAYCEELEE-DUGARD." In the book, she describes the moment as "breaking an evil spell."

The book, published by Simon & Schuster, concludes on a reflective note. Dugard writes about her therapy sessions, analyzes her own behavior during her years with the Garridos, and wishes the best for her daughters in the future.

Her eldest daughter, identified only as "A" in the book, is now in high school, and Dugard describes how that milestone stirred up her own grief at what she had missed out on.

Dugard writes that she tries hard to appreciate each day, but is "still afraid it will be taken away."

Elizabeth Smart to work as ABC commentator

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Elizabeth Smart is taking a job with ABC News as a commentator focusing on missing persons and child abduction cases.

The Utah woman who was kidnapped from her bedroom at knifepoint, raped and held captive at age 14 by a Salt Lake City street preacher can provide viewers with a unique perspective, network spokeswoman Julie Townsend told The Associated Press on Thursday.

A deal with the now 23-year-old has been the works for several months and she could be on the air within the next few weeks, Townsend said.

"We think she'll help our viewers better understand missing persons stories," Townsend said in a telephone call from New York City. "This is someone with the perspective to know what a family experiences when a loved one goes missing."

Smart was kidnapped from her family home in the dead of night on June 5, 2002, by Brian David Mitchell, an itinerant street preacher whose writings have revealed he took the blond-haired, blue-eyed girl so he could practice polygamy.

Mitchell, 56, was convicted in December on federal charges of kidnapping and unlawful transportation of a minor across state lines for sex. He was sentenced in May to life in federal prison without parole.

An appeal of Mitchell's conviction has not yet been filed.

At a news conference after the sentencing, Smart said she was looking forward to a new and "beautiful" next chapter of her life, including working on behalf of missing children.

"I am looking at all the different options and trying to decide where I can make the biggest difference, where I can have the biggest effect for good," Smart said May 25 outside Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Children's book by Mario Lopez coming out in Sept.

NEW YORK (AP)—New dad Mario Lopez is writing a children's book. Celebra Children's Books announced Thursday that Lopez's new book, "Mario and Baby Gia," will come out Sept. 27. The book is named for Lopez's infant daughter, Gia Francesca. She is Lopez's first child with girlfriend Courtney Mazza, whom he met while performing in Broadway's "A Chorus Line." The publisher is an imprint of Penguin Group (USA). The 37-year-old Lopez is best known for his role as A.C. Slater on "Saved by the Bell." He's also appeared on "Golden Girls" and "Dancing with the Stars," and he hosted the MTV reality show "America's Best Dance Crew." Lopez's previous author credits include the fitness books "Knockout Fitness," "Extra Lean" and "Extra Lean Life."

Sheryl Crow helps group fighting NV horse roundup

RENO, Nev. (AP)—Singer, songwriter Sheryl Crow says she'll donate part of the profits from an upcoming concert in Wyoming to a wild horse protection group that is suing the government to try to stop a big mustang roundup in Nevada. Crow says the Colorado-based Cloud Foundation will get a share of the gate from her show with Kid Rock at Cheyenne Frontier Days on July 22. The Grammy Award winner who grew up in Missouri says she shares the foundation's dedication to the preservation of wild horses on public lands. The group's lawyers are due in federal court in Reno on Thursday. They're trying to win an emergency injunction to block the Bureau of Land Management's roundup of 1,700 mustangs scheduled to begin next weekend along the Nevada-Utah line.

William and Kate opt out of Calgary tradition

CALGARY, Alberta (AP)—Prince William and Kate risked upsetting their Western Canadian hosts by declining to try on the white cowboy hats presented to them by Calgary's mayor. The royal couple, on their first official overseas tour since their April wedding, landed at Calgary's airport on Thursday where they were scheduled to take part in the city's time-honored tradition of having visiting dignitaries try on white cowboy hats. But William and Kate opted out. Canadian Broadcasting Corp. commentators said it would be viewed as a snub. Miguel Head, a spokeman for The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, told The Associated Press they are looking forward to wearing the hats later Thursday and Friday and "in no way are they snubbing what is a very honored gift."

Tween girl feels her life is over before eighth grade

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm only 12 and I feel like my life is ending. I just finished seventh grade, I don't have many friends and I feel like the ones I do have don't really care.

I do gymnastics and volleyball, but my friends there don't really care, either. My family is no help. My sisters are too busy with their friends and boys to care. My parents don't know anything about me. On top of that, there's a boy I like who acts like I don't exist. What should I do?

FRIENDLESS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR FRIENDLESS: I find it interesting that when people write to me, it's often the LAST thing in their letters that's the crux of the problem. I'm sorry your love life isn't going well at the moment, but your life isn't "over." In fact, it's just beginning. Everyone has days when they feel alone in the crowd—even kids who are popular.

Your parents have known you all your life. If they don't yet know the person you're becoming, it may be because you haven't let them. They have experienced much of what you're going through, and I'm sure they'll be glad to share their wisdom if they're given the chance.

As to the guy you like, he may be shy or not yet ready for romance. Give him some time to grow up and appreciate you, and he may start to like you, too.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: For the past 10 years or so, at bridal and baby showers I have attended, blank envelopes have been handed to guests upon arrival with instructions to self-address them. This, apparently, saves the gift recipient time having to address envelopes to the gift-givers.

I usually set the envelope aside and don't fill it out, but last week the guest of honor's mother handed me an envelope and pen and stood there until I completed the task.

After spending time and money shopping for and paying for a gift, I feel insulted having to address my own thank-you envelope!

Can you think of an appropriate response when I'm asked to participate in this insulting new party ritual? Or should I stay quiet and accept that most people are ignorant regarding good manners?

INSULTED IN OHIO

DEAR INSULTED: How about this for a response: "After spending my time shopping for a gift, and my hard-earned money to pay for it, it is insulting to be expected to address my own thank-you envelope. If she likes the gift, she can address the envelope herself. If not, she can return the gift to me."

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please tell parents and teachers to warn children that when they walk on the roads to walk facing the traffic. We have come up behind many people walking with their backs to the traffic, some of whom are listening to music or talking on their cellphones and don't even know anyone is around.

COLLETTE IN NEWBURGH, MAINE

DEAR COLLETTE: I'm pleased to print your warning. There is a name for pedestrians who do as you have described and aren't aware of their surroundings or impending danger. It's "casualty."

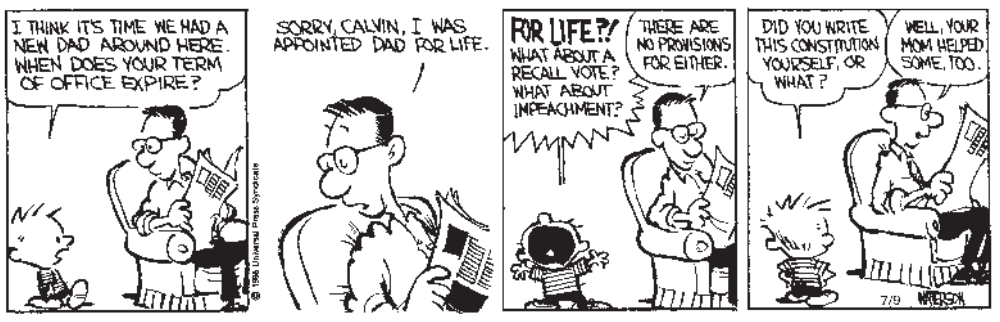
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

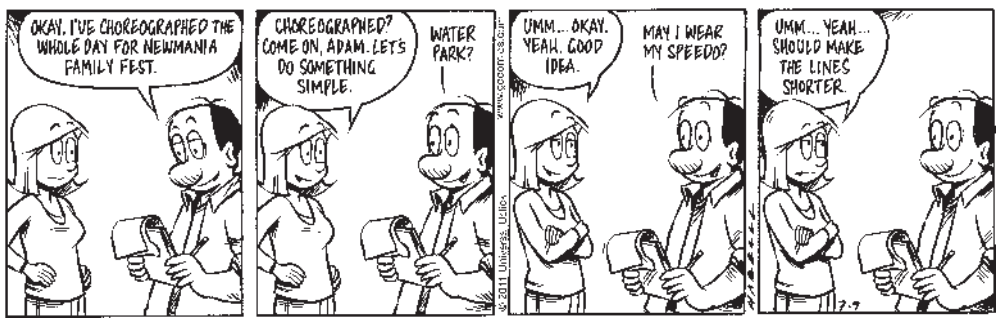

I THINK IT'S TIME WE HAD A NEW DAD AROUND HERE. WHEN DOES YOUR TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRE?
SORRY, CALVIN, I WAS APPOINTED DAD FOR LIFE.
FOR LIFE?! WHAT ABOUT A RECALL VOTE? WHAT ABOUT IMPEACHMENT?
THERE ARE NO PROVISIONS FOR EITHER.
DID YOU WRITE THIS CONSTITUTION YOURSELF, OR WHAT?
WELL, YOUR MOM HELPED SOME, TOO.
7/9

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

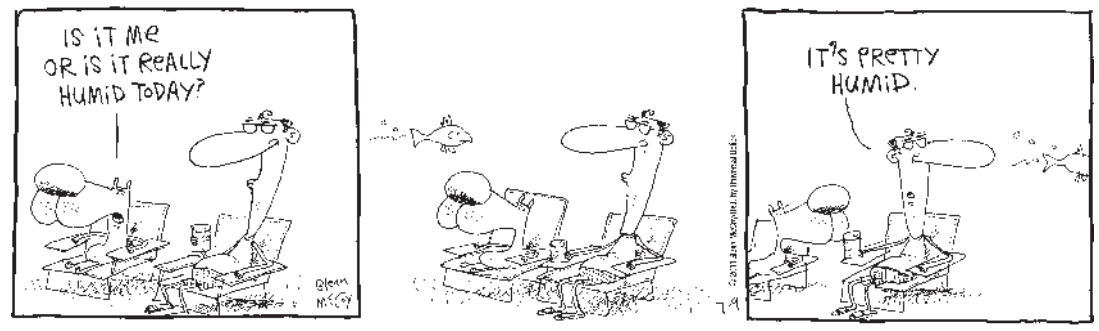
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


OKAY. I'VE CHOREOGRAPHED THE WHOLE DAY FOR NEWMANIA FAMILY FEST.
CHOREOGRAPHED? COME ON, ADAM. LET'S DO SOMETHING SIMPLE.
WATER PARK?
UMM... OKAY. YEAH. GOOD IDEA.
MAY I WEAR MY SPEEDO?
UMM... YEAH... SHOULD MAKE THE LINES SHORTER.
7-7

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Keep talking
4 Laryngitis symptom
8 Pop flavor
12 Also
13 Earthen pot
14 Elliptical
15 Rhyming tribute
16 Cherished
17 Singer Horne
18 Country singer dubbed "The Thin Man From the West Plains"
21 Picnic invader
22 Press for payment
23 Legislate
26 Thither
27 Two, in Tijuana
30 Stroll
31 Fenway squad
32 Wall Street optimist
33 Needle feature
34 Wilde-beest
35 Run-down
36 Privy
37 That boat
38 "Vanity Fair" VIP
45 Boo Boo's mentor
46 Go fast
47 Outback bird
48 Eve's opposite
49 Writer Ferber
50 Pen point
51 Unescorted
52 Witnessed
53 Parched

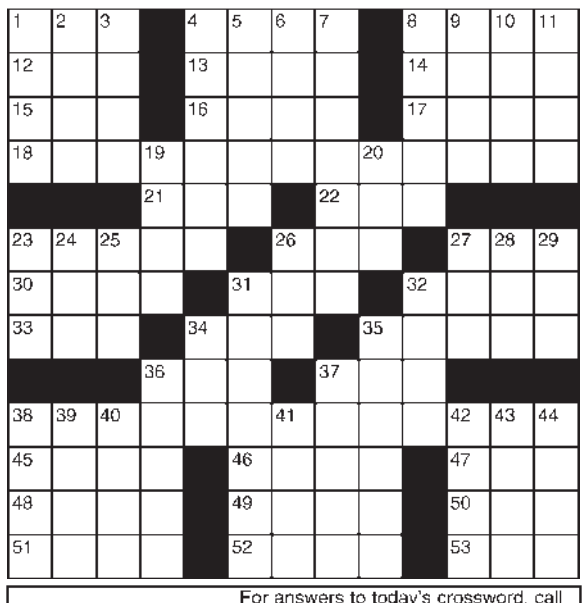
DOWN

1 On
2 Old fogy
3 Active one
4 Mouse or hamster
5 Caution
6 Cabbage salad
7 Seeming contradiction
8 Punctuation marks
9 Microwave, e.g.
10 Nathan of Broadway
11 Winged
19 Bulletin board item
20 Pistol
23 Ram's fan?
24 Aye canceler
25 Hearty quaff
26 Second person
27 Payable
28 On in years
29 Stallone, to fans
31 Catnaps
32 Kin of 25-Down
34 Pantheon member
35 Priestly magician
36 Perjury
37 Tea treat
38 Prom venues, often
39 Source
40 City in India
41 Protuberance
42 Be inclined
43 Mideast leader
44 July birthstone

Solution time: 27 mins.

V	J	M	■	O	P	S	■	B	E	L	L	E
E	D	O	■	O	R	T	■	E	A	S	E	L
N	A	T	■	H	O	O	V	E	R	D	A	M
O	H	O	■	S	T	R	I	P	■	■	■	■
M	O	R	N	■	E	Y	E	■	E	A	S	E
■	■	■	I	S	M	■	W	E	B	C	A	M
S	C	E	N	E	■	■	■	A	B	E	T	S
L	O	G	J	A	M	■	S	U	E	■	■	■
Y	O	G	A	■	E	E	E	■	D	I	N	E
■	■	■	■	A	S	T	R	O	■	N	I	M
P	O	L	I	S	H	H	A	M	■	D	E	B
E	D	I	T	H	■	E	P	I	■	I	C	E
R	E	E	D	Y	■	L	E	T	■	A	E	R

Yesterday's answer 7-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Fred Savage, 35; Courtney Love, 47; Tom Hanks, 55; Chris Cooper, 60.

Happy Birthday: You can make great gains if you put your heart and soul into making the most of what you have to offer, what you learn and what you want to achieve. Learning, exploring and change will go hand in hand and result in personal and professional gains. Set your goals and head for the finish line. Everything is achievable if you are determined and steadfast. Love and romance will highlight your year. Your numbers are 6, 11, 16, 20, 34, 36, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): If you try to cram too much into your day, you will fall short when it comes to quality. A burden or demand will slow you down. Take proper care of your health and well-being or you will not be able to finish your to-do list. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Concentrate on getting rid of old habits. The more versatile you are and the more time you spend improving skills that can be incorporated into your professional advancement, the better you will feel. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Before you jump in and blurt out what's on your mind, consider whether your disclosure will hurt someone. You can make a good impression if you handle matters with diplomacy. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Today is all about looking good and doing even better. Focus on your appearance and the people you love the most. A short trip or activity that is challenging will help motivate you to turn one of your ideas or skills into a service you can offer for a profit. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Avoid any type of controversy that may cause a problem at home or with someone you love. Situations will get blown out of proportion if you aren't sensitive to what those around you are going through or feeling. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Do what you can to pick up information or find an alternative way to raise your income. Attending a seminar or trade show or traveling to visit someone you always learn something from will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Attending a function that interests you will enable you to connect with someone who shares your sentiments and wants to make improvements that are more conducive to achieving your life goals. Love is highlighted. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make choices that will allow you to put more into your home or your community. Someone new may be enticing but probably will take advantage of you if given the chance. Pick and choose your allies with care. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Helping an organization you believe in will bring you benefits. There is money to be made and potential contracts, settlements or proposals that offer you greater security in the future. A change at home will pay off. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Expand your networking potential by marketing yourself to a wider variety of businesses or end users. Love is on the rise, and romancing someone you fancy will bring you high returns. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): It's time to make a smart move that will help ease stress. You can stabilize your financial situation if you pare down and get rid of some of the overhead you have been carrying. Don't let an emotional attachment to something or someone cost you. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can make a trade or invest in something that will help you get ahead financially. Single or not, you should spend time doing something that will enhance your love life. Financial gain is heading in your direction. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, unique, intuitive, loyal, compassionate, possessive and intense. You will do whatever it takes to please the ones you love.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6		7	5	4		8		
	2	3						6
9 4				7	6			9
			2					4
3						5	6	
		4		9	2	1		3

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 7/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	1	6	7	8	4	3	2	5
5	7	3	6	2	1	8	4	9
8	4	2	9	3	5	1	7	6
4	3	9	5	6	7	2	1	8
2	8	1	4	9	3	5	6	7
7	6	5	8	1	2	9	3	4
1	9	7	3	4	8	6	5	2
6	2	4	1	5	9	7	8	3
3	5	8	2	7	6	4	9	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

RENTALS **Solution: 9 letters**

S	A	G	U	I	Ⓓ	E	C	O	T	T	A	G	E	S
L	L	A	H	Ⓔ	M	D	E	S	U	I	T	S	P	E
A	N	I	Ⓐ	G	R	A	B	O	S	K	I	S	P	N
T	S	Ⓛ	S	F	E	E	C	O	N	D	O	Y	R	I
N	E	A	E	U	T	T	M	H	O	A	L	T	O	S
E	A	Q	S	R	P	E	R	I	I	H	C	R	P	U
R	R	T	U	N	C	P	R	A	T	N	T	A	E	O
E	C	A	B	I	N	S	L	N	I	N	E	P	R	M
T	H	L	F	T	P	S	O	Y	D	L	E	R	T	I
U	E	F	R	U	A	M	R	M	N	I	E	G	Y	L
R	O	U	S	R	O	L	E	A	O	B	T	R	A	I
N	C	L	L	E	S	K	L	N	C	R	A	T	S	S
K	G	E	D	A	E	N	O	I	T	A	C	O	L	T
S	T	I	N	U	V	F	N	O	V	R	O	O	E	E
E	V	A	S	T	W	E	E	K	L	Y	L	L	D	D

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Yesterday's Answer: Leaves

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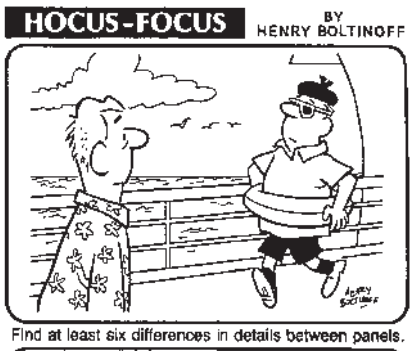
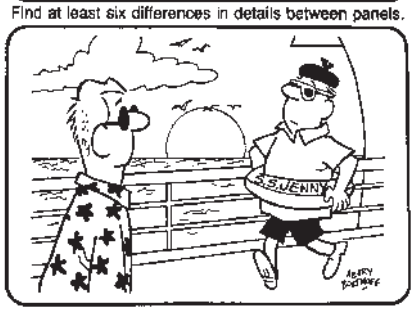
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. There's writing on the life buoy. 2. Sun is setting. 3. Man has sunglasses. 4. Man's shirt is different. 5. More birds are shown. 6. Man has no socks.

Wishing Well®

8	4	3	2	3	8	5	8	5	6	4	2	4
U	H	C	U	O	N	T	I	R	Y	A	N	P
2	3	4	8	3	4	5	2	4	6	5	7	3
E	M	P	O	F	Y	U	X	T	O	S	S	O
5	4	8	5	4	3	6	4	2	6	5	3	5
T	I	N	I	M	R	U	E	P	P	N	T	T
3	5	3	5	4	8	2	7	8	5	8	6	7
R	U	E	I	S	O	E	P	F	T	I	R	R
8	2	5	2	5	7	8	7	6	7	8	6	3
D	C	I	T	O	E	E	A	I	D	A	Z	C
6	7	2	5	8	7	6	3	6	7	6	3	2
E	H	E	N	S	O	F	E	R	P	I	I	D
3	6	2	7	6	2	6	2	3	6	2	3	2
V	E	H	E	N	O	D	N	E	S	O	D	R

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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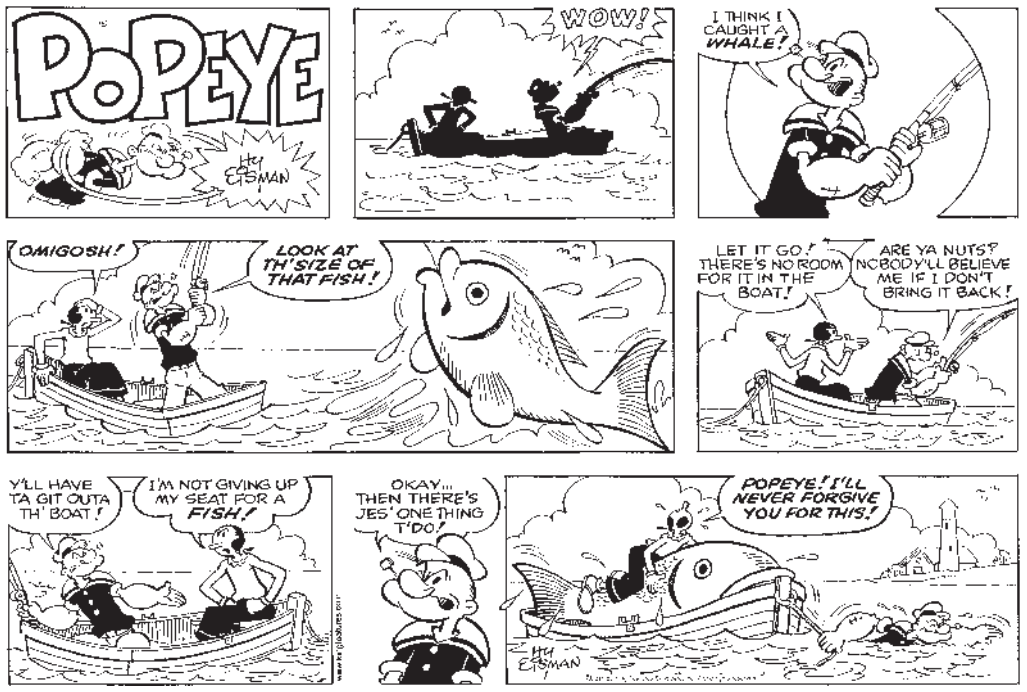
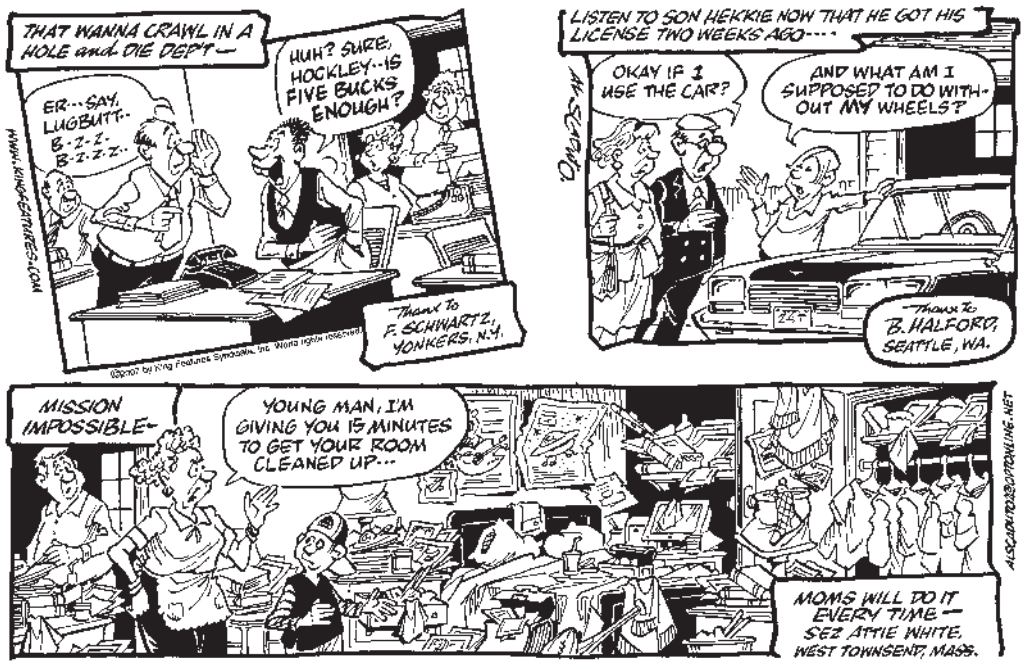

POPEYE
Hy EISMAN
WOW!
I THINK I CAUGHT A WHALE!
OMIGOSH!
LOOK AT TH'SIZE OF THAT FISH!
LET IT GO! THERE'S NO ROOM FOR IT IN THE BOAT!
ARE YA NUTS? NOBODY'LL BELIEVE ME IF I DON'T BRING IT BACK!
Y'LL HAVE TA GIT OUTA TH' BOAT!
I'M NOT GIVING UP MY SEAT FOR A FISH!
OKAY... THEN THERE'S JES' ONE THING T'DO!
POPEYE! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS!
Hy EISMAN

They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto


THAT WANNA CRAWL IN A HOLE and DIE DEP'T—
ER···SAY, LUGBUTT·· B-I-I-. B-I-I-T-T-..
HUH? SURE, HOCKLEY··IS FIVE BUCKS ENOUGH?
Thank To F. SCHWARTZ, YONKERS, N.Y.
LISTEN TO SON HEKKIE NOW THAT HE GOT HIS LICENSE TWO WEEKS AGO····
OKAY IF I USE THE CAR?
AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITHOUT MY WHEELS?
Thank To B. HALFORD, SEATTLE, WA.
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE-
YOUNG MAN, I'M GIVING YOU 15 MINUTES TO GET YOUR ROOM CLEANED UP···
MOMS WILL DO IT EVERY TIME— SEZ ATTIE WHITE, WEST TOWNSENT, MASS.
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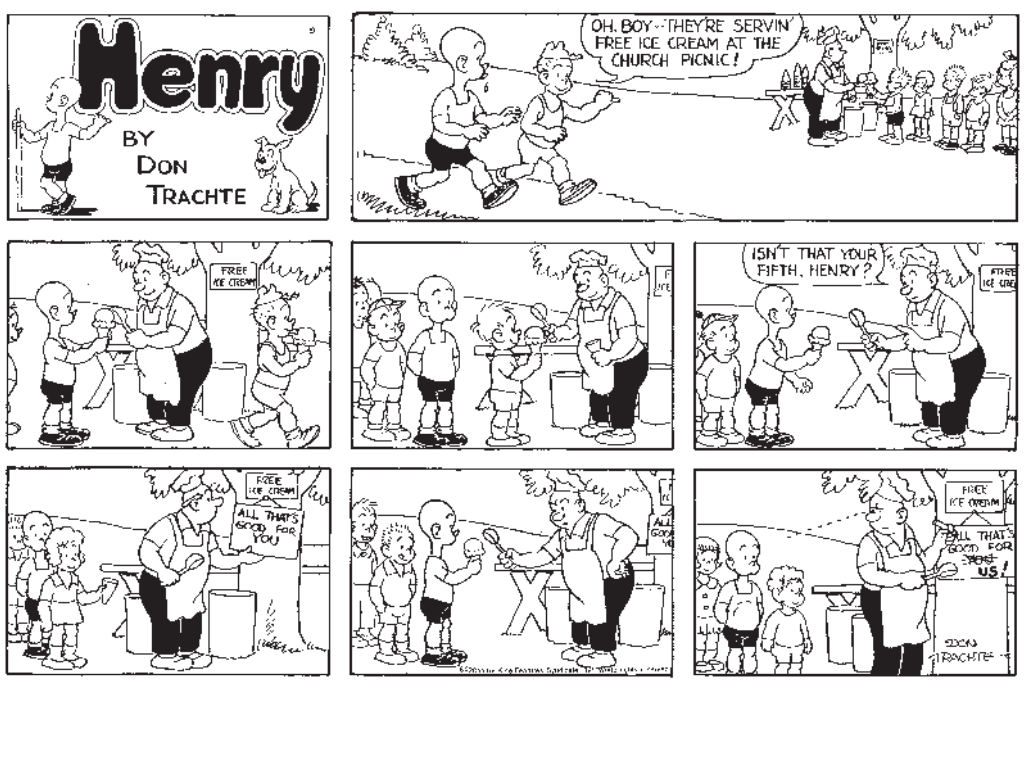
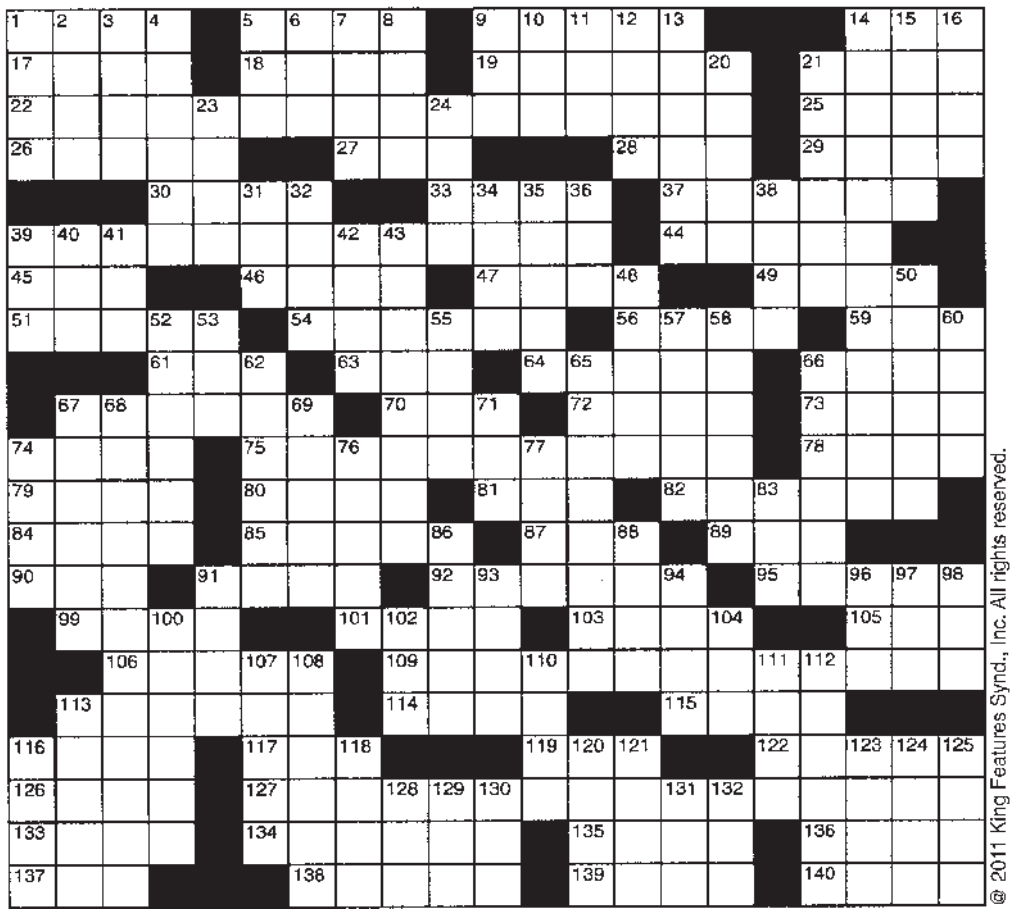

Henry
BY DON TRACHTE
OH, BOY··THEY'RE SERVIN' FREE ICE CREAM AT THE CHURCH PICNIC!
FREE ICE CREAM
ISN'T THAT YOUR FIFTH, HENRY?
ALL THAT'S GOOD FOR YOU
ALL THAT'S GOOD FOR US!
DON TRACHTE

Super Crossword — FOR THE BIRDS

ACROSS
1 Sagan or Sandburg
5 Swarm sound
9 Montana city
14 Monterrey Mrs.
17 '58 Pulitzer winner
18 Piece of fencing?
19 He was "The Thing"
21 Pipe part
22 WREN
25 Brobdingnagian
26 For — (cheaply)
27 Comic Costello
28 — Na Na
29 Mascagni opera
30 Poet Wilcox
33 Lohengrin's bird
37 African antelopes
39 LARK
44 "The Optimist's Daughter" author
45 Bonanza material
46 Coveleski or Musial
47 Vichyssoise veggie
49 Tip one's topper
51 Long-tailed parrot
54 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"
56 Scandinavian city
59 Griffon greeting
61 Fool
63 Missouri airport abbr.
64 Valuable instrument
66 Stowe sight
67 Screenwriter Nora
70 Elf
72 Dash
73 Sarah — Jewett
74 Inland sea
75 QUAIL
78 Depravity
79 Easy stride
80 Bit of gossip
81 Parenthesis shape
82 Physicist Fermi
84 Corset part
85 Alfredo ingredient
87 British big shot
89 Monsarrat's "The Cruel —"
90 Tulsa commodity
91 Cheat at hide-and-seek
92 Preposterous
95 Sweetheart
99 Turn over
101 Darjeeling dress
103 Invasion
105 Frankfurter's field
106 Rent
109 CRANE
113 Church official
114 Oriental staple
115 Big rig
116 Channel
117 Actress Hagen
119 Plutarch character
122 Tole material
126 Be important
127 PARTRIDGE
133 Actor Novello
134 Kindle
135 Heart burn?
136 Time for a sandwich
137 According to
138 German port
139 Racing legend
140 Guy Fri.

DOWN
1 — Grande, AZ
2 FBI workers
3 "— Man" ('84 film)
4 Not as fatty
5 Neighbor of Ger.
6 Prosperous times
7 Non-nonchalance?
8 Nil
9 Crank's comment
10 Swiss canton
11 Explosive initials
12 Golfer's gadgets
13 Avoid
14 DUCK
15 Toomey or Philbin
16 Iowa city
20 Musty
21 Japanese religion
23 Hard on the eyes
24 Astrology term
31 Brown or Baxter
32 Vino center
34 Corduroy ridge
35 Writer Rogers St. Johns
36 Formerly known as
38 Moro of Italy
39 One who no's best?
40 Distinctive period
41 — room
42 Singer Elliot
43 Bete noire
48 Adorable Australian
50 Tenor Corelli
52 One of the Judds
53 Tolstoy title start
55 Coalition
57 Play ground?
58 Bedding
60 At large
62 Word with dog or state
65 "Never on Sunday" star
66 Good-humored
67 Amatory
68 CARDINAL
69 — Dame
71 Anaconda, for one
74 As well
76 Pursues
77 Coffee pots
83 Ring counter
86 Andretti or Cuomo
88 Fiber source
91 Swamp stuff
93 "Death of a Salesman" son
94 Pad
96 Ryan's "Love Story" co-star
97 Bud
98 Fluffy female
100 Crime writer Colin
102 PC key
104 SHAEF commander
107 "The March King"
108 Whole
110 Stamping ground
111 TV award
112 Strauss city
113 Debonair
116 — coffee
118 Energy source
120 One of a pair
121 South Seas novel
123 New Mexico resort
124 John of "Roots"
125 Expected back
128 Bossy's chew
129 Sugary suffix
130 Guys
131 College growth
132 Empower



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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FOOD & DRINK: What vegetable also is known as a pieplant?
2. EXPLORERS: Which famous explorer also served as a governor of Arizona in the late 1800s?
3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin term "pro forma" mean?
4. MEASUREMENTS: If something occurs every 12 years, what would be the correct numerical term to describe the event?
5. HISTORY: Where did American legend Davy Crockett die?
6. MUSIC: What does the musical instruction "dolce" mean?
7. THEATER: Who wrote the play "The Glass Menagerie"
8. SCIENCE: What vitamin also is known as riboflavin?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the name of the Native American chief who defeated Gen. George Custer at the Little Big Horn?
10. PHILOSOPHY: Ralph Waldo Emerson led which movement in the 1800s?

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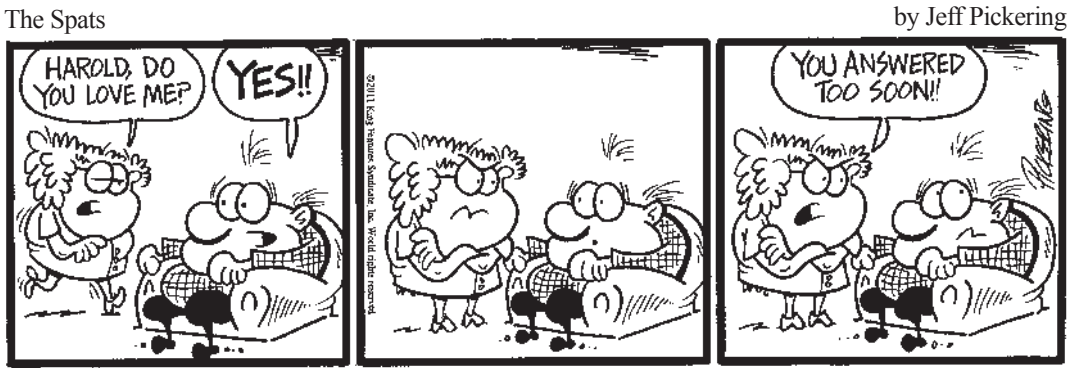
Answers
1. Rhubarb
2. John Charles Fremont
3. A formality
4. Duodecennial
5. The Alamo
6. To play sweetly
7. Tennessee Williams
8. B-2
9. Crazy Horse
10. Transcendental movement

Saturday's Answers

The Spats — by Jeff Pickering



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• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

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32
36 FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011
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Sports
Rondo, Celtic on to beat Spu
31
Minor wins doubles in Australia
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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Upton powers Rays past Yankees

NEW YORK (AP)—B.J. Upton homered and drove in three runs to lead the Tampa Bay Rays past the New York Yankees 5-1 on Thursday to start strongly in a long stretch of games against their American League East rivals.

Ben Zobrist homered, tripled and singled for Tampa Bay, which tagged Bartolo Colon (6-4) early in one of the worst outings of his surprising comeback season.

It was the first of 11 straight games for the Rays against New York and Boston, the two teams they trail in the AL East.

Derek Jeter got one hit—a first inning double—to move within two hits of becoming the 28th major leaguer, and first with the Yankees, to reach 3,000 hits. He grounded out his next four times up.

Rays starter Jeff Niemann (4-4) gave up Jeter's hit and a sixth-inning homer but little else, going a season-high 7 1-3 innings.

Angels 5, Mariners 1

In Anaheim, Jered Weaver pitched a complete game for his 11th victory of the season, guiding Los Angeles to a win over Seattle.

Weaver (11-4) tuned up for a possible start in the All-Star game with his eighth career complete game and his fifth straight victory during a nine-game streak without a loss.

Fellow All-Star selection Howie Kendrick extended his hitting streak to 16 games with a run-scoring double. Bobby Abreu and Vernon Wells also drove in runs during a three-run third inning for the Angels against Seattle starter Doug Fister (3-10), who yielded seven hits over six innings in his seventh straight winless start.

Indians 5, Blue Jays 4

In Cleveland, Travis Hafner hit a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth inning to give Cleveland a dramatic victory over Toronto.

Hafner hit the first pitch from Luis Perez (1-2) deep into the right-field seats for Cleveland's second game-ending slam of the season.

Hafner's 12th career slam made a winner of Tony Sipp (4-1), who yielded Jose Bautista's 29th homer in the eighth to give Toronto what seemed like a comfortable 4-0 lead.

The Indians loaded the bases without an out. Perez came on and struck out one before Asdrubal Cabrera lined an RBI single to left, setting the stage for Hafner.

Red Sox 10, Orioles 4

In Boston, Dustin Pedroia hit a three-run shot as Boston added three consecutive home runs in the seventh inning to overpower Baltimore.

Six different Boston players homered, including three straight by David Ortiz, Josh Reddick and Jarrod Saltalamacchia that helped the Red Sox blow open the game.

Jacoby Ellsbury added a two-run homer and Adrian Gonzalez had a solo drive for Boston, which moved half a game up on the Yankees atop the AL East.

Red Sox pitcher Andrew Miller (3-0) won his third straight start, allowing three runs in five innings.

The Orioles have lost nine out of 10. Jake Arrieta (9-6) allowed Boston's first two homers.

Rangers 6, Athletics 0

In Arlington, Texas shut out Oakland in a game marred by the death of a fan who fell out of the stands while trying to catch a ball.

Replays showed the man falling about 20 feet head-first to the ground while reaching for a ball that was tossed into the stands by Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton after it had gone foul.

Texas starter Derek Holland pitched his third career shutout, striking out seven.

Oakland's Rich Harden (1-1) took the loss.

Tigers 3, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Max Scherzer pitched into the seventh inning to steer Detroit past Kansas City.

Scherzer (10-4) was in command over the first six innings before a pair of singles put runners on first and second with two outs in the seventh.

The bullpen averted the threat until Jose Valverde made the ninth inning an adventure, giving up a two-out walk and an infield single before securing his 22nd save in 22 chances.

Ryan Rayburn hit a two-run homer off Royals rookie Danny Duffy (1-4); the only runs he conceded in six innings.

Twins 6, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Joe Mauer had three hits, drove in two runs and was flawless in his first game at first base, leading Minnesota to victory over Chicago.

Mauer, the 2009 AL MVP, had started 714 games in the major leagues in the field, all at catcher.

Ben Revere also had three hits and two RBIs for the Twins, who beat Chicago for the eighth straight time. Minnesota starter Carl Pavano (6-6) allowed two runs over seven innings.

White Sox starter Phil Humber (8-5) lasted 3 2-3 innings, allowing season worsts of 11 hits and six runs.

Diamondbacks 4, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Justin Upton's two-run homer helped the Arizona Diamondbacks to a win over St. Louis, dropping the Cardinals into a tie for top spot in the National League Central division.

Upton hit his 15th homer of the season off Kyle McClellan (6-6), who gave up four runs in seven innings and has not won in six starts. McClellan returned to the mound for the Cardinals after a 50-minute rain delay and gave up the homer on his sixth pitch following the break.

Arizona starter Joe Saunders (6-7) pitched five scoreless innings and was removed from the game after the delay.

Braves 6, Rockies 3

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman hit a three-run homer, his fourth of the series, as Atlanta beat Colorado to complete its first four-game sweep of the Rockies in 18 years.

Jason Heyward homered for the streaking Braves, who have won nine of 10.

Rookie first baseman Freeman hit four homers and drove in seven runs in the series. His homer was the highlight of a five-run third inning that knocked Colorado pitcher Juan Nicasio (3-2) out of the game, having given up six straight hits.

The Rockies, who have lost five straight and was already playing without injured regulars Carlos Gonzalez and Troy Tulowitzki, saw outfielder Charlie Blackmon break a bone in his left foot while running the bases in the third inning.

AP

Tampa Bay Rays' B.J. Upton (2) is greeted at home plate by Casey Kotchman, left, and John Jaso after Upton hit a two-run home run off of New York Yankees starting pitcher Bartolo Colon in the fifth inning of a baseball game Thursday, July 7, 2011, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Atlanta starter Tim Hudson (8-6) pitched 7 1-3 innings, allowing five hits, to win his third straight decision.

Brewers 5, Reds 4

In Milwaukee, Rickie Weeks hit a three-run homer as Milwaukee held on in the opener of a four-game series against Cincinnati.

Weeks hit a line-drive shot off Homer Bailey (3-4) as the Brewers built a 5-2 lead in the fifth.

John Axford got into serious trouble in the ninth, allowing a leadoff home run and putting runners on the corners with two outs before getting a ground out for his 23rd save.

Brewers starter Chris Narveson (6-5) pitched six innings for the win.

Giants 2, Padres 1

In San Francisco, Barry Zito won his third straight start since coming off the disabled list, directing San Francisco to a tight win over San Diego.

Zito (3-1) allowed one run over eight innings with a season-high seven strikeouts while beating the Padres for the first time in nearly three years. He did not walk a batter and retired 14 of the final 16 hitters he faced.

Eli Whiteside homered for the Giants while Pablo Sandoval extended his career-high hitting streak to 18 games.

Dodgers 6, Mets 0

In Los Angeles, the hosts piled on five runs in the sixth inning to see off New York and end a five-game losing skid.

Los Angeles parlayed extra-base hits by Matt Kemp, Juan Uribe, Aaron Miles and Dioner Navarro into a game-breaking inning.

Dodgers starter Clayton Kershaw (9-4) pitched eight innings, striking out nine and walked two.

The Mets loaded the bases in the ninth with one out but could not notch a fifth straight win.

New York starter Dillon Gee (8-3) gave up all six runs.

Cubs 10, Nationals 9

In Washington, Darwin Barney's tie-breaking double in the ninth inning capped a wild comeback as Chicago rallied from an eight-run deficit to beat Washington.

Tony Campana reached on a fielder's choice, stole second and scored when Barney doubled to right off Henry Rodriguez (3-2). It was Barney's third hit and RBI of the game.

Each Washington starter had at least one hit as the Nationals built an 8-0 lead in the fourth inning, but Chicago scored six runs in the sixth and two runs in the seventh to tie it.

The Cubs took a 9-8 lead in the top of the eighth, and the Nationals tied it 9-9 in the bottom of the inning.

Sean Marshall (5-2), the fifth Chicago pitcher, allowed two hits and took the win.

Marlins 5, Astros 0

In Miami, Mike Stanton's two-run homer helped Florida beat Houston.

Stanton's homer—his 18th—came in his first at-bat since his walkoff homer in the 10th inning on Wednesday against Philadelphia. He had been homerless in his previous 20 games.

Logan Morrison drove in two runs and Emilio Bonifacio had three hits for the Marlins.

Florida starter Brad Hand (1-3) went seven scoreless innings to notch his first victory in the major leagues. Hand, a 21-year old rookie left-hander, had his longest outing and held the Astros without a hit until the fifth.

The Astros, who tied a season-low with three hits, have lost six of seven. It was the fourth time they have been shut out this season.

Houston starter J.A. Happ (3-11) lost his seventh straight decision as he issued a career-worst seven walks in 5 2-3 innings while allowing five runs.

Fan dies after falling from stands at Rangers game

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—A man attending a Texas Rangers game with his young son died after falling out of the stands and about 20 feet to the ground while trying to catch a baseball tossed his way Thursday night, the Rangers and Arlington fire officials said.

Arlington Fire Department officials said in a statement that another fan nearby tried unsuccessfully to grab the man to keep him from falling. They said the victim's son did not fall.

"We had a very tragic accident tonight and one of our fans lost their life reaching over the rail trying to get a ball," team president Nolan Ryan said. "As an organization, and as our team members and our staff, we're very heavy-hearted about this, and our thoughts and prayers go out to the family."

A very somber Ryan didn't get into details about the accident or release the man's name.

Ronnie Hargis was sitting in the stands at Rangers Ballpark next to the victim. The men were talking to each other before the accident.

"He went straight down. I tried to grab him but I couldn't," Hargis said. "I tried to slow him down a little bit."

TV replays showed the man falling head-first and landing behind a 14-foot-high wall supporting a video board for replays and scores. The area where the man fell is out of sight from the field.

It is the second fatal fall at a MLB ballpark this season. In May, a 27-year-old man died after he fell about 20 feet and struck his head on concrete during the seventh inning of a Colorado Rockies game. Witnesses told police that the man had been trying to slide down a staircase railing at Coors Field and lost his balance during a game against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The accident in Texas occurred in the second inning after Oakland's Conor Jackson hit a foul ball that ricocheted into left field. Josh Hamilton, the reigning AL MVP, retrieved the ball and tossed it into the stands. Replays on Oakland's television broadcast show the man reaching for the ball and apparently catching it before tumbling.

"We spoke to the ballclub, they understood what has happened and we spoke to Josh," Ryan said. "I think as any of us would be, Josh is very distraught over this, as the entire team is."

The Rangers clubhouse was closed to reporters after the game.

Hagen wins 6th stage of Tour de France

LISIEUX, France (AP)—Tour de France riders might have reservations about the way organizers have shaken up the format of the early stages. For fans, the start has been one of the most exciting in recent memory.

The decision to jettison the often formulaic first week of flat, mass sprint finishes in favor of courses featuring narrow, twisting lanes and the kind of short, steep finales more common in the Spring classics has drawn the ire of some riders because of safety concerns

Stage finishes on the Mont des Alouettes, the Mur de Bretagne and the uphill run-in Thursday to Lisieux were just steep enough to derail sprint specialists Mark Cavendish and Tyler Farrar, and open the door to wins by powerful but less speedy riders Philippe Gilbert, Cadel Evans and Edvald Boasson Hagen.

Belgian rider Maxime Monfort said stage finishes such as the sixth leg Thursday, won by Boasson Hagen, have made the rush to the line more crowded and dangerous.

"When they put finishes like today, you have the pure sprinters on one hand, who say 'OK, it's a little hard but I can get over it,'" Monfort said. "And on the other hand, you have the favorites. That makes two breeds of rider fighting for position, when usually there is just one. There's not room for everybody."

The 24-year-old Boasson Hagen, from Norway, led a sprint to win the rain-splattered stage and countryman Thor Hushovd retained the yellow jersey Thursday.

AP

Edvald Boasson Hagen of Norway, second right, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the sixth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 226.5 kilometers (140.7 miles) starting in Dinan, Brittany, and finishing in Lisieux, Normandy, western France, Thursday July 7, 2011.

Race favorites Alberto Contador and Andy Schleck were just happy to stay out of trouble.

The pack battled both slippery roads and brisk wind over the hilly 141-mile ride across northwest France from Dinan to Lisieux in Normandy—the longest stage in the race this year.

Team Sky's Boasson Hagen whizzed out of the barreling pack with about 200 yards left and held on, jutting his arms in the air as he crossed the line for his first Tour stage victory.

"I really surprised myself," Hagen said. "Lots of people say that I'm a talented guy, so it's nice to show it by winning a stage."

Australia's Matt Goss was second, and Hushovd third.

Philippe Gilbert, the Belgian rider who won the opening stage Saturday, said "everyone was a bit out of breath" and that Hagen "devoured the last 150 meters."

Hushovd reveled in his country's success Thursday.

"Not bad, after all—it's a good day for Norway," said the Garmin-Cervelo veteran who retained the yellow jersey for the fifth consecutive day.

As for Hagen, Hushovd said: "Clearly, he's got a big future."

Overall, Hushovd retained a one-second lead over Australia's Cadel Evans, while Luxembourg's Frank Schleck was third, 4 seconds back. Three-time champion Contador, who lost time in a Stage 1 crash, was 34th overall, 1:42 behind.

Blustery conditions increased the danger, and Contador was relieved to avoid crashing after he fell Wednesday.

"In the last few kilometers I was thinking only about not falling because it was a dangerous course," Contador said. "At the end of the stage I got to the front of the peloton not to lose time (but) to avoid problems."

Hushovd and his team appeared to be wearying of the hard work of protecting the yellow jersey, which involves riding in the front to keep the race leader out of potential trouble.

"The yellow jersey's on my shoulders and I used up a lot of energy, so I'm a little bit tired. That's why I missed that little something today," Hushovd said. "I'm feeling good but it's been a hard and stressful week."

"In seven Tours, it's the most amount of wet weather I've had in one day at the Tour, and then to happen on the longest day ... it makes for a hard day," Evans said, in comments relayed by his BMC team spokesman.

Top title contenders Contador, Evans and two-time Tour runner-up Andy Schleck talked about their climbing skills. At one point, said Evans, Contador showed "a pretty good little attack."

"But with these climbs, it's so short and sharp that it doesn't give a good indication of who's really climbing the best—so we'll see when we get there," Evans said about the mountain stages in the Pyrenees and Alps. The three-week race ends July 24 in Paris.

It was yet another bad day for the U.S. RadioShack team because American veteran Levi Leipheimer crashed late—his second spill in two days—and lost more than a minute on the leaders.

The 37-year-old Leipheimer finished the stage in 75th place, 1:05 behind Hagen, and dropped to 31st overall - 1:23 behind Hushovd.

On Wednesday, RadioShack lost young star Janez Brajkovic of Slovenia from the race in a nasty spill that left him unconscious, bloodied on his head. He had a concussion and broken collarbone.

Friday's stage offered more long-distance punishment: Riders were set to cover 135.5 kilometers in a mostly flat ride from auto racing mecca Le Mans to Chateauroux, near mainland France's geographic center.

Late run sents Blanks to Deere Classic lead

SILVIS, Ill. (AP)—Kris Blanks birdied his final five holes Thursday to finish with an 8-under-par 63 and grab the first-round lead at the John Deere Classic.

Blanks, who played the back nine first, rolled in a 25-foot putt on No. 5 to start his late run and capped it with an 11-footer to leave him alone at the top after Canadian rookie Matt McQuillan and veteran Davis Love III held that spot much of the day with 64s.

Another late starter, Steve Marino, also came in with a 64. Mark Wilson, who has won twice on the tour this year, and Kyle Stanley were another stroke back, while Steve Stricker, seeking his third straight title in the tournament, was part of a large group at 66.

Blanks, 38, is in his third year on the tour and came in tied for 175th in putting. But after tinkering with his approach on Wednesday night, he found what he needed and put himself in good position to reach the weekend.

"It was good to finally see some putts fall, which I've been struggling with all year," said Blanks, who has missed the cut in 11 of 20 tournaments. "So that was definitely a positive. It's just fun to make some putts."

If Blanks was a surprise in the lead, seeing McQuillan near the top was even a bigger shock. McQuillan, who has missed 10 straight cuts this year, grew so discouraged with his game in 2005 that he spent two years tending bar in his hometown of Kingston, Ontario.

He then played a year on the Canadian Tour and two on the eGolf Tour before going to Q-school on what he called "a shot in the dark" and earning a spot on this year's PGA Tour.

But he hasn't made a cut since tying for 54th at the Sony Open in mid-January and has won just $12,705 on the year.

"It's very difficult, and to stay positive and patient has been the key for me," McQuillan said. "I'm out here playing with the best players in the world and on the best golf courses in the world.

"So it's very tough to stay positive and patient. But I just figure I'm out here, I qualified to get out here, so I'm trying to have fun and make some birdies."

Though no one approached the eye-popping numbers of last year's first round, when Paul Goydos shot a 59 and Stricker had a 60, there were plenty of golfers bunched in the mid-60s. Goydos matched Stricker with a 66, as did Charles Howell III, Josh Teater, Lee Janzen, D.A. Points, Cameron Percy, Brendon de Jonge, Zach Johnson, Cameron Beckman, Chez Reavie and Jim Herman.

Goydos said conditions were completely different from a year ago, when rain left the course soft and vulnerable to low scores.

"It plays shorter, but it plays harder," he said. "It's hard to kind of squeeze your ball in there on some of the holes. Last year we were just shooting darts. The ball stopped where it landed. Today, you had to kind of bounce it in a little. It makes it more difficult."

It wasn't particularly difficult for Blanks, who spent time on the putting green Wednesday and a half-hour in front of the mirror in his hotel room later that evening trying to get everything right.

"The way I was stepping into the ball was creating my shoulders to be open, so I just changed my routine where I don't go with it the same way," Blanks said. "It was more awkward, but at this point, I kind of needed some awkwardness. If it felt comfortable, I was back to my older tendencies."

After a bogey on No. 4 dropped him to 3 under, Blanks faced a 25-foot uphill putt on 5 and knocked it in. His confidence suddenly fired, he came back with a 14-footer for birdie on 6, rolled in birdie putts of 17 feet on each of the next two holes, then topped off his big day with a final birdie at No. 9.

"I thought my speed was real good all day," he said. "I worked real hard yesterday afternoon and evening and went to a heavier putter to try to get the ball rolling."

McQuillan recovered from a crazy bogey-eagle-bogey start to play near flawless golf the rest of the way - seven birdies without a bogey.

"Well, I figured I got my great stuff and bad stuff out early and then just tried to make some good swings," he said.

His play Thursday left him with a much better feeling than he had when stepped away from the game six years ago. He welcomed the change at first because he needed something different. Eventually, it helped the former University of Georgia golfer realize what he really wanted to do.

"After about a year working, I realized golf wasn't too bad," he said.

Starting on the back nine, Love rolled in an 11-foot birdie putt on his first hole and went on to his best round of the year. He salvaged par on No. 17 by holing out from a greenside bunker and made a 13-foot putt for par on No. 8 after hitting into a bunker and then the rough.

"I putted well," Love said. "Even the ones that didn't go in, most of them I felt like I hit really good."

Marino, who has two runner-up finishes this year, was even after three holes and a modest 2-under at the turn. But birdies on 10, 11, 12 and 13 put him in a position to challenge for the lead, a spot he would have held had he not missed a 9-footer for birdie at 14.

"Shooting 7-under the first day is awesome," Marino said. "But it's not going to get you anything come Sunday."

David Toms (hip) and Robert Garrigus (back) withdrew from the tournament halfway through their rounds because of injuries. Toms said his injury will keep him out of next week's British Open. George McNeill (76) and Scott Verplank (78) pulled out after finishing their rounds.

IT&E Incredibles, Fotten Palau pull off Bud Cup upsets

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	52	35	.598	—
New York	51	35	.593	1/2
Tampa Bay	49	39	.557	3 1/2
Toronto	42	47	.472	11
Baltimore	36	49	.424	15

Central Division

Cleveland	47	39	.547	—
Detroit	47	42	.528	1 1/2
Chicago	43	46	.483	5 1/2
Minnesota	39	47	.453	8
Kansas City	36	52	.409	12

West Division

Texas	48	41	.539	—
Los Angeles	47	42	.528	1
Seattle	43	45	.489	4 1/2
Oakland	39	50	.438	9

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	55	33	.625	—
Atlanta	53	36	.596	2 1/2
New York	45	43	.511	10
Washington	45	44	.506	10 1/2
Florida	40	48	.455	15

Central Division

Milwaukee	47	42	.528	—
St. Louis	47	42	.528	—
Pittsburgh	45	42	.517	1
Cincinnati	44	45	.494	3
Chicago	36	53	.404	11
Houston	30	59	.337	17

West Division

San Francisco	50	39	.562	—
Arizona	48	41	.539	2
Colorado	41	47	.466	8 1/2
San Diego	40	49	.449	10
Los Angeles	38	51	.427	12

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 6, Colorado 3
Chicago Cubs 10, Washington 9
Florida 5, Houston 0
Milwaukee 5, Cincinnati 4
Arizona 4, St. Louis 1
L.A. Dodgers 6, N.Y. Mets 0
San Francisco 2, San Diego 1
Tampa Bay 5, N.Y. Yankees 1
Cleveland 5, Toronto 4
Boston 10, Baltimore 4
Texas 6, Oakland 0
Detroit 3, Kansas City 1
Minnesota 6, Chicago White Sox 2
L.A. Angels 5, Seattle 1

JOHN DEERE CLASSIC SCORES

SILVIS, Illinois (AP) — Scores Thursday in the John Deere Classic, a US PGA Tour event at the 7,268-yard, par-71 TPC Deere Run course.

FIRST ROUND

Kris Blanks	30-33—63
Davis Love III	32-32—64
Matt McQuillan	32-32—64
Steve Marino	33-31—64
Mark Wilson	32-33—65
Kyle Stanley	31-34—65
Charles Howell III	33-33—66
Josh Teater	34-32—66
Lee Janzen	30-36—66
Steve Stricker	33-33—66
D.A. Points	32-34—66
Paul Goydos	34-32—66
Brendon de Jonge	31-35—66
Cameron Percy	33-33—66
Zach Johnson	34-32—66
Cameron Beckman	34-32—66
Chez Reavie	33-33—66
Jim Herman	33-33—66
Chad Campbell	33-34—67
Craig Bowden	32-35—67
Troy Matteson	31-36—67
John Merrick	34-33—67
D.J. Trahan	34-33—67
Greg Chalmers	34-33—67
Charles Warren	35-32—67
Steven Bowditch	34-33—67
David Hearn	32-35—67
Ben Martin	34-33—67
Duffy Waldorf	33-34—67
Arjun Atwal	33-34—67
Jason Day	33-34—67
Michael Sim	31-36—67
Will MacKenzie	34-33—67
Billy Mayfair	34-33—67
William McGirt	33-34—67
Troy Merritt	34-34—68
Marco Dawson	34-34—68
J.J. Henry	34-34—68
Michael Bradley	33-35—68
Brian Gay	33-35—68
Chris Kirk	36-32—68
J.P. Hayes	35-33—68
D.J. Brigman	36-32—68
Frank Lickliter II	35-33—68
Kirk Triplett	35-33—68
Jhonattan Vegas	30-38—68
Briny Baird	32-36—68
John Mallinger	34-34—68
David Mathis	33-35—68
Andres Gonzales	32-36—68
Leif Olson	32-36—68
Alexandre Rocha	33-35—68
Brett Wetterich	35-34—69
Nathan Green	36-33—69
Vaughn Taylor	34-35—69
Dean Wilson	34-35—69
Chris DiMarco	32-37—69
Michael Connell	35-34—69
Chris Stroud	34-35—69
Rod Pampling	34-35—69
Chris Tidland	34-35—69
Nate Smith	34-35—69
Joe Ogilvie	33-36—69
Tim Petrovic	35-34—69
Alex Prugh	34-35—69
Woody Austin	36-33—69
Paul Stankowski	34-35—69
Pat Perez	35-34—69
Scott Stallings	36-33—69
Kevin Kisner	35-34—69
Aron Price	32-37—69
Dicky Pride	36-34—70
Scott McCarron	36-34—70
Cameron Tringale	34-36—70
Mark Hensby	35-35—70
Kenny Perry	36-34—70
Ricky Barnes	33-37—70
Kent Jones	34-36—70
Brian Davis	34-36—70
Bob May	35-35—70
Michael Putnam	36-34—70
Scott Piercy	35-35—70
Chris Baryla	32-38—70
Ryuji Imada	34-36—70
Chris Couch	34-36—70
Michael Letzig	34-36—70
Heath Slocum	35-35—70
Todd Hamilton	34-36—70
Rich Beem	33-37—70
Brandt Jobe	35-35—70
Chad Proehl	33-37—70
Daniel Summerhays	34-36—70
Joseph Bramlett	36-34—70
Jason Dufner	36-35—71
Jerry Kelly	34-37—71
Hunter Haas	33-38—71
Tag Ridings	36-35—71
Jimmy Walker	36-35—71
Michael Thompson	36-35—71
Shane Bertsch	36-35—71
Matt Jones	34-37—71
Jonathan Byrd	37-34—71
Louis Oosthuizen	35-36—71
James Driscoll	34-37—71
Andres Romero	38-33—71
Bryce Molder	35-36—71
Shaun Micheel	33-38—71
Matt Weibring	33-38—71
Jim Renner	36-35—71
Robert Gamez	36-36—72
Kevin Stadler	38-34—72
Jason Bohn	35-37—72
Zack Miller	35-37—72
Colt Knost	35-37—72
Morgan Hoffmann	37-35—72
Sunghoon Kang	32-40—72
Brett Quigley	36-36—72
Richard S. Johnson	33-39—72
Jay Williamson	38-34—72
John Rollins	38-34—72
Stewart Cink	34-38—72
John Daly	35-37—72
Marc Leishman	37-35—72
Roland Thatcher	36-36—72
Blake Adams	39-33—72
Scott Gutschewski	38-34—72
Brian Maurer	37-35—72
Bio Kim	34-38—72
Kevin Tway	37-35—72
Justin Hicks	36-36—72
Garrett Willis	33-40—73
Chris Riley	36-37—73
Charlie Wi	36-37—73
Billy Horschel	35-38—73
Will Strickler	37-36—73
Jeff Quinney	37-36—73
Mike Small	35-38—73
Jarrod Lyle	38-35—73
Fran Quinn	37-36—73
Fabian Gomez	37-36—73
Derek Lamely	37-37—74
Mike Weir	38-37—75
Tommy Gainey	38-37—75
Scott Gordon	39-36—75
David Duval	37-38—75
Chris Smith	38-37—75
Martin Piller	36-39—75
Bobby Gates	37-39—76
Brady Schnell	36-40—76
Scott Langley	34-42—76
Brad Faxon	40-37—77
Matt Bettencourt	40-38—78
George McNeill	76—WD
Scott Verplank	78—WD
David Toms	WD
Robert Garrigus	WD

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Utopia Sports Bar's Docomo Hustlers, left, and USSP Peleliu Club's Fotten Palau knocked out the frontrunners of their respective divisions in last Tuesday's Saipan Billiards Association Open 8-Ball League Budweiser Cup matches.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

IT&E Incredibles and Fotten Palau eliminated the top-ranked teams of their respective divisions after the conclusion of last Tuesday's Saipan Billiards Association's Open 8-Ball League Budweiser Cup tournaments.

IT&E Incredibles of Buddies' Bar & Grill upset top ranked IT&E Voyagers of Jonny's Bar & Grill, 4-1, during the four-team Agingan division playoff round held at Jonny's Bar & Grill.

Fotten Palau dethroned Obyan frontrunner, Best Choice, of D'Pirates Bar & Grill's, 4-3, at home at the USSP Peleliu Club in their division quarterfinal match.

Meanwhile, Agingan's second seeded Docomo Hustlers, of Utopia Sports Bar, knocked off host team Home Boyz in the other Aginag playoff at Jonny's.

The two finalists will face each other for the bonus championship this Tuesday at Utopia.

Meanwhile, Obyan's X-Tream upset Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Shark Attack, 4-1, at home in VFW Post 3457.

X-Tream will host Fotten Palau in next Tuesday's semifinal, while caboose team Pirates will host X-Tream at D'Pirates.

All games are played under a pair of doubles matches followed by five singles games.

YVONNE

From Page 28

110m hurdles event of the regional championship. He submitted a time of 17.43 seconds in the 110m hurdles, eclipsing his Micronesian Games best time of 17.53 seconds. Kenty was just 12 seconds behind the CNMI record of Wayne Pua (17.31 seconds). Kenty also joined the 400m hurdles and surpassed his personal best time (61.58 seconds/2010 Micronesian Games) when he clocked in at 61.28 seconds in Samoa.

Lopez earned the Female Student Athlete of the Month plum after dominating the U15 division of the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam. The Hopwood Junior High School student ruled the age group after topping teammate Melody Johnson in the finals. The diminutive junior tennis player also triumphed in the doubles competition with Johnson as her teammate this time.

The Male Student Athlete of the Month award went to Lizama, who stood out among the veterans that competed in the 5th Annual Saipan Spearfishing Tournament.

Lizama had the single heaviest catch in the underwater spearfishing competition after getting a 12.5-lb sweet lips. He is only 17 years old, the second youngest in the field of 26, and beat the likes of Micronesian Games medalist Felix Sasamoto and eventual overall winners Mike Cassidy and Carl Dela Cruz of Guam's Cassidy-Fanui.

The Kagman High School student is a member of Salty's, which finished fourth overall with a total weight catch of total catch of 61.80 lbs.

MARIANAS

From Page 28

12 in that quarter alone, including seven of Marianas Water's last eight points in the first half.

Gabaldon went on to finish with 19 markers and gave Marianas Water its first win in two games. Francis Andales also scored in double figures for Marianas Water, chipping in 13.

GPPC dropped to a 1-2 card, as only Randy Mungcal showed a solid offensive game with his 31 markers. Alex Ocampo was the second leading scorer for GPPC, but his eight points were scattered in the four quarters.

In the Pool B game, Joeten Superstores downed the Bud Brothers, 57-50.

Joeten won the game from the free throw line, as seven of its last nine points came from the stripe. Sam Fernandez hit five charities and Amor Casabuena and Mike Umali had one each to save the win for Joeten, which fell behind by a deuce at the end of the third period, 36-38.

With only a basket separating the two teams, Joeten and the Bud Brothers had a neck-and-neck battle in the fourth before the latter gave up costly fouls, giving the former the chance to win the game in the end with its clutch free throws.

The victory kept Joeten's unbeaten record in two games, while the Bud Brothers fell to a 1-2 slate.

Rodney Sacramento paced Joeten with 17 points, while Casabuena added 14. Toto Banatasa also had 17 points for Bud Brothers.

First Game

Joeten Superstores 57 – Sacramento 17, Casabuena 14, Umali 9, Devero 8, Fernandez 6, Cruz 1, Alfonso 1.

Bud Brothers 50 – Banatas 17, Tabora 9, Brillo 7, Pacson 6, Lopez 4, Towun 3, Barroso 2, Ramos 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-9, 22-18, 36-38, 57-50.

Second Game

Marianas Water 85 – Darag 30, Gabaldon 19, Andales 13, Lontoc 10, Mendiola 4, Anasan 4, Maniponio 3, Pacheco 3.

GPPC 63 – Mungcal 31, Tolentino 10, Ocampo 8, Tagle 6, Sampang 6, A. Rivera 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-12, 48-26, 71-43, 85-63.

MAN-NATIBU

From Page 28

feated in the double-elimination venture and held a twice-to-beat advantage over Man-Natibu on Sunday.

Man-Natibu is made up of players from the Top 2 teams of the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2nd Annual Budweiser Slow-Pitch Softball League. Kulan Zamu, Poksu, and Adit brands sponsored the team.

Players include J.R. Suel, James Fleming, Vinnie Sablan, John Terlaje, Lucio Kalen, Nokki Saralu, Jun Saralu, Carl Hocog, Tony Kapileo, Popo Tudela, Bruce Norita, Kenzie Arriola, Jerry Ayuuyu, Eric Palacios, Roy Celis, and Kent Kalen.

"I'm pleased to share that the tournament was a success. The Pac-Chain tournament organizers and its Boise Pac-Chain associates would like to thank the all the teams for their support. We would also like to thank sponsors Mar-Pac Budweiser and IT&E for helping make this year a success. Special thanks also go out to Mark Palacios, Tony Santos, and Frank Shiro for their assistance in setting up the field and officiating the games," stated Pac Chain's Jack Diaz in a press release yesterday.

Proceeds raised from the tourney went to help Team Pac Chain travel and compete in the 7th Annual CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament, which will be held this September in Portland Oregon.

Team Pac Chain is made up of CNMI residents and student in Boise, Idaho that attend Boise State University and various high schools in the Boise area.

The group finished second place out of 32 teams to the Island Boys out of Seattle, Washington in last year's competition.

Other participating teams in the fundraiser tourney included third-place finisher Team Fielders along with Get Er Done, Class of 91 and Champions, Tyler Inc., Team Sufa, Team Manelus, Bang Bros., Chumbz, and Team Acho.

According to Diaz, this may be the final fundraiser tourney for Team Pac Chain this year, although participants asked organizers to put on another event.

INAUGURAL

From Page 28

for the adult teams and a special must-pass rule will also be put into effect. More specific details will be clarified to players at game time.

There is no entrance fee, but as a special ground rule, one team representation will serve as a third party referee as the tourney progresses. Other RBC volunteers will help officiate and perform scoring table duties.

Trophies will be awarded to the top two place finishers.

In related news, RBC just completed its RBC "Smoked Meat" fundraiser yesterday at the 13 Fishermen pavilion. The group sold over 100 bags of smoked pork butt for $10 each from 8:30am to 11:30am.

RBC plans on putting on a carwash fundraiser on July 30. The club hopes to hold the event at the McDonald's Middle Road, but the location has not be confirmed.

Proceeds raised from the fundraisers will go to help RBC's U12, U14 A and B, U16 A and B, U18, and U25 divisions compete in the Take-Care Thanksgiving Hoopfest on Guam this November.

In addition, RBC coaches Paul Camacho and Fred Litulumar will help conduct summer youth basketball camps, starting this Monday through Friday. Main sponsors for the summer camp include the Department of Youth Services and the Northern Marianas College-Area Healthy Education Center.

RBC members also helped clean the Garapan Community Development youth center back in March by repainting the building, constructing tables, and picking up trash.

Moreover, RBC is currently collaborating with the Department of Environmental Quality to continue its beach clean up efforts and would like to clean up the Pau Pau Beach playground.

Other future civil services include helping repaint the DYS-Parents Education Program Office conference room.

Hagen wins 6th stage of Tour de France

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Upton powers Rays past Yankees

Page 25

Yvonne leads June awardees

Bennett

Kenty

Lopez

Lizama

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Yvonne Bennett's impressive runs in the 2011 Oceania Regional Championships were lauded, as she and three others were named top athletes for June.

Bennett was handed the NMASA Female Athlete of the Month for winning a gold medal and shattering CNMI and Micronesian record in last month's regional competition held in Apia, Samoa. The Commonwealth sprinter claimed a gold medal in the 400m run and reset the CNMI and Micronesian marks in the 100m and 200m races.

ATHLETES of the MONTH

She clocked in at 57.66 seconds in the 400m run to beat three other runners and then timed in at 12.52 seconds and 25.67 seconds in the 100m and 200m races, respectively, to finish second in the qualifying heats. Bennett eventually took bronze medals in the finals of the two sprints.

Joining Bennett on the list of June's best were Clayton Kenty, Mikayla Lopez, and David P. Lizama.

Kenty was named Male Athlete of the Month for giving the CNMI a bronze medal in the

See YVONNE on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas Water's Francis Andales goes up for a fastbreak layup against GPPC during their game in the Blue Haus caging Thursday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Marianas Water, Joeten Superstores victorious

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas Water poured it on all night en route to an 85-63 rout of GPPC during the Pool C game in the 2011 Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League on Thursday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

John Darag led Marianas Water's splurge, as he sizzled for 30 points. He scored 14 straight markers at one point in the first period to lift Marianas Water to a 22-12 lead.

Marianas Water continued to douse GPPC with its outside shots in the second quarter and a quick 7-0 run for about two minutes padded the lead to 17, 29-12. GPPC never recovered from thereon despite a temporary lull in the second canto that cooled off Marianas Water's shooting hands a bit. It rained in the last 3:28 of the first half with Marianas Water ahead, 42-22. Game resumed after 30 minutes and though Marianas Water had only three field goals in the remaining minutes of the first half, it was enough to put the team on top by 22 at halftime, 48-26.

Marianas Water pulled away in the second canto, as Danas kept on firing from outside and Yosh Gabaldon also went into a zone. Danas had two triples and eight points in the second period, while Gabaldon tallied

See MARIANAS on Page 27

Man-Natibu wins Team Pac-Chain softball tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Man-Natibu pulled off an upset win against Bwi Bwi's, 16-11, in the first finals match before taking the tiebreaker finale, 16-11, to rule the 2011 Pac-Chain Fundraiser Softball Tournament held over the weekend at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Man-Natibu topped a field of 12 competitors and won in-kind prize packages from sponsors Mar-Pac and IT&E along with the other podium place finishers. All participating teams received consolation prizes.

Bwi Bwi's advanced to the championship match unde-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Man-Natibu players pose for a team photo after winning the Team Pac Chain Softball Fundraiser Tournament last Sunday at Capital Hill Ballfield. Front row from left, J.R. Suel, James Fleming Vinnie Sablan, John Terlaje, and Lucio Kalen. Back row from left, Nokki Saralu, Jun Saralu, Carl Hocog, Tony Kapileo, Popo Tudela, Bruce Norita, Kenzie Arriola, Jerry Ayuuyu, Eric Palacios, Roy Celis, and Kent Kelan.

Inaugural RBC-Hoopaholics Family Fest set today

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REPORTER

The Rollers Basketball Club and Hoopaholics cagers are kicking off their first RBC-Hoopahilcs Family Fun Fest today at Garapan Basketball Court.

The action starts at 3:30pm with the RBC's Pee Wee U12 teams, Fotten Gaga and Konflikt, facing of in the curtain raiser. The two youth teams will battle it out on the hard court under two 12-minute halves.

Then at 4:30pm RBC's U14 Apples and Bananas, U16 A and B teams, adult Madness and Happiness squads along with the Hoopaholics will face off in inter-division play. Matchups will be determined through a raffle format and games will be played under 8-minute quarters.

The Hoopaholics are an independent adult team that holds long time ties with the RBC club. Many of its players graduated from RBC's program.

"The purpose of this tournament is to challenge the younger players to compete at a higher level, while still forcing the more experienced players to work on their half court offensive strategy. We also want to send out special thanks to Fotten Gaga's Dexter Mendiola and Konflikt's Norman Del Rosario for providing the U12 kids with their team shirts," said RBC head coach Joe Diaz in a phone interview yesterday.

Certain ground rules will be enforced when the adult teams challenge the youth groups. Fast breaks will not be allowed

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

A Fotten Gaga player drives to the basket in the U12 Rollers Basketball Club exhibition match against Konflikt back on June 29 at the Garapan Basketball Court.